

Advertiser
also Register 16 FEB 1924

Register 18 FEB 1924

FEB 1924

bold

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

From G. G. NEWMAN:—In the last November Leaving Examinations the number of failures was greatly in excess of the passes. Two subjects were in the main responsible for this—English literature and mathematics. Have the examiners who set the papers in these two subjects ever taught children? If they have not, they should be made aware of the fact that limited intellects cannot deal with complicated matters all at once. In the recent English literature paper out of seven questions given, four were distinctly unfair. They read as follows:—(1) Discuss the lyrical gifts of Milton, Shelley, and Wordsworth. (2) Compare and contrast Poe and Stevenson as story-tellers. (3) Comment on this: I doubt if the poet Shakespeare can himself have clearly defined the main principle, the motive, and the meaning of such characters as York, Norfolk, and Aumerle. (4) Write the following passage in metrical form and then indicate the stresses—Mammon led them on—Mammon the least erected spirit that fell from heaven; for even in heaven his looks and thought were always downward bent, admiring more the riches of heaven's pavement, trodden gold, than aught divine or holy else enjoyed in vision beatific." Question one deals with the Book of Poems set, and in this there is only one poem by Wordsworth. Lyric poetry includes the sonnet, the song, the elegy, the ode, the psalm, and the hymn. Wordsworth's only poem in this book is "Grace Darling," and this is neither a sonnet, song, elegy, ode, psalm, nor hymn, and is therefore clearly out of the range of lyrical poetry. There is only one ode by Shelley, and three sonnets by Milton. If the study of these four poems gives the ability to the schoolboy of average intellect to pose as a critic of the lyrical gifts of these three poets, it would come as a surprise to many. In question two again, there is only a single story by each of these writers on which to form contrast and comparison. Question three is quite beyond the intellectual capacity of any candidate who sat for the examination. I doubt, also, whether question four was answered correctly by any one. If you knew that "Mammon" was the first word in the line you might have a chance. If candidates will turn up Milton's "Paradise Lost," Book I, line 678, they will find that "Mammon" is the second syllable of the third foot, and "fic" in "beatific" is the first syllable of the fourth foot. I wonder how many picked this! Is a whole question like this "fair game?" It would be interesting to hear the remarks of some of the candidates or parents of candidates. With regard to the November mathematics paper, will any teacher of this subject say that the two following problems are "fair" questions for a leaving candidate:—(1) "A fire hose, whose nozzle is 2 inches in diameter, discharges a jet of water at a speed of 50 ft. per second against the side of a building. Assuming that the slope of the jet is 45 degrees, and that the water runs down the wall without rebounding, find the pressure against the wall;" (2) "ABC is a fixed vane shape as a quadrant of a horizontal circle. A jet of water moving at 10 ft. per second parallel to the tangent at A strikes the vane at A and moves long it, leaving it at C with speed undiminished. What changes in velocity has the water undergone?" What is the reason for this sudden stringency?

Professor Osborn, of the Adelaide University, who is also Consulting Government Botanist, left Adelaide for Sydney by the interstate express on Saturday. He has been delegated by the Commonwealth Institute of Science and Industry to investigate and report upon the bunchytop disease in bananas, which is causing heavy losses in Queensland. He expects to be away for about a fortnight.

Advertiser 18 FEB 1924

Mr. Frederic Chapple, late headmaster of Prince Alfred College, is seriously ill at his home at Norwood.

Advertiser 18 FEB 1924

Professor G. C. Henderson left for Melbourne by the express on Sunday night.

News 16 FEB 1924

MR. FREDERIC CHAPPLE

Health Gradually Failing

Mr. Frederic Chapple, C.M.G. (former headmaster of Prince Alfred College) is seriously ill at his home at Norwood. He has been in failing health for some time. Much sympathy is felt for him and his relatives. He is gradually getting weaker.

Mr. Chapple was born in London on October 12, 1845, and received his education at the London University, where he won the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, and secured honors in logic, moral philosophy, and physiology. In 1876 he was appointed headmaster of Prince Alfred College, a position he occupied with much success and in which he became exceedingly popular. He resigned in 1915 after 39 years' service.

During his term at the college he interested himself in many patriotic and charitable movements, and his work for the community was recognised in 1915 by the King, who conferred on him the Companionship of the Order of St. Michael and St. George.

Since his retirement from the college Mr. Chapple has continued to take an interest in movements for the welfare of boys and young men, particularly the Young Men's Christian Association, and he has also held positions in connection with the senate and council of the University.

News 16 FEB 1924

"TOO MANY PROFESSORS"

Rural Teaching Starved

"The effect of present-day education is to over supply the professions. The University is turning out a stream of doctors, lawyers, dentists, and chemists," said R. S. Vincent, M.L.A., at the Orara Show at Grafton.

The inadequacy of provision made for agricultural instruction, Mr. Vincent added, was to be found at the University, where, although a faculty of agriculture had been established in 1911, there were in 1921 only 27 students, two of whom were engaged in research work.

There was, Mr. Vincent continued, one Agricultural College and two Agricultural High Schools, but no other provision had been made for the teaching of those important subjects. This was affecting the development of the rural districts. A keener regard for the welfare of the State would have been shown if, in 27 high schools and a score of intermediate high schools, agricultural instruction had been placed on the syllabus; and agricultural plots provided.

Mr. Vincent said as much money was being spent on public parks as on agricultural education.

THE NEWS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1924.

NATIONAL LIFE

(By Professor Coleman Phillipson)

In last Saturday's article I considered the meaning of a nation and its distinguishing characteristics; I pointed out the ambiguity of the term "nation," and showed its relationship to "nationality" and "State"; and, finally, I endeavored to show that such attributes as community of language and of religion are not so important as common economic interests, traditions, spirit, desire to live a common life, consciousness of the desirability and power to bring about certain material, intellectual, and moral values. In the present article I wish to supplement the previous exposition with a few words on the development of national life, and especially national consciousness.

Conditions of Development

The first condition necessary for the progressive development of national life is the attainment of mental homogeneity by the community. In some cases this homogeneity has been innate, as, for example, among the Jewish people, or the Irish people. In many cases, however, communities have started with a number of heterogeneous elements, representing various or conflicting mentalities, and in process of time have acquired a certain mental homogeneity; for example, the United States of America (though in this case signs have appeared recently to show that the melting-pot has not always operated as successfully as had been supposed). Further, in order to facilitate the consummation of that homogeneous state, and to maintain its existence, constant communication and intercourse are essential. Without this the promotion of the common welfare is impossible; and consequently it is of the utmost importance to establish easy and accessible channels of communication, such as roads, railways and waterways (including sea passages, river courses, and canals). Where there is a people spread over an extensive territory that is lacking in adequate means of communication and intercourse, a divergence of interests and of trends of development will result, with the consequent tendency to separateness and disunion; so that the whole people will be increasingly weakened, its internal efficiency diminished, and its security from external aggression jeopardised. A factor favoring union and communal unity is inter-marriage between one member of one locality and that of a more or less distant locality; thus, it will be for the good of Australia if people in this State marry spouses in Victoria, if Victorians and Queenslanders inter-marry, Queenslanders and Western Australians, and so on.

Again, efficient leadership is all-important; the directing and unifying influence exercised on a community by great men is much more important than is commonly conceived. Failing great leaders, the people will certainly decline; but the people must prove itself worthy of the gift of great men. Figs do not grow on thistles. Hence the need for true general education—intellectual, moral, and aesthetic; commercial instruction can never be a good substitute for a liberal and generous education.

National Consciousness

National consciousness grows more effectively and becomes more intensified in countries where family life is deeply rooted and cherished. Salutory intercourse generally tends to a levelling up rather than to a levelling down; it promotes sympathy and mutual understanding, and produces various forms of healthful emulation. Thus the best innate characteristics of the people are fostered, and those detrimental to compatible social life are eliminated or repressed. So the most precious traditions are safeguarded; they in turn become a source of fresh inspiration to the community, and the improvement of social organisation is rendered easier and more certain.

What is, after all, the test of a well-organised nation? It is the degree of the development of national ideals and the capacity of the individuals to work for the realisation of those ideals, together with the harmonising of the collective will and the ideals. Thus, among the English-speaking nations there is a conspicuous regard for law and political conventions, a settled disposition to solve political difficulties by means of constitutional devices and expedients gradual evolution is instinctively preferred to violent wrench with the past. And that way lies national security and salvation.

Nationalism and Patriotism

Nowadays nationality and democracy are closely related; that is, the idea of nationality is affected by the conception of democracy, but is distinct from it. Of course, democracy may be just as pronounced and efficient in a monarchical State as in a republican. Indeed, a monarchy such as the British enjoys certain great advantages that are rarely found in a republic.

The great problem at present, as I have previously indicated, is to bring about a proper adjustment of nationalism to internationalism. Without an adequate national sense no people can be a great nation. On the other hand, excesses of nationalism merely invite disaster. In our own day we have seen the destructive effects which the arrogant and overweening assertiveness of pan-Germanism and pan-Slavism has brought about. There is a true and wise patriotism, and there is a false, and mad patriotism. True patriotism is not mere blind love of one's country; it is not hatred of foreigners. It implies a resolve to maintain, by our willing labor and self-sacrifice, the national character, and to realise the national destiny; for it involves faith in our capacity to contribute something of value to the highest civilisation of mankind. Accordingly, such patriotism is not merely consistent with world-peace, but is really essential for its stability. War is never due to healthy patriotism; it breaks out rather, as Plato truly said, when States become internally diseased. But true patriotism cannot beget internal disease. Love, loyalty, and comradeship begin at home: "if they love not those whom they have seen, how shall they love those whom they have not seen?"

Register 16 FEB 1924

ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION.

South Australians, when visiting London, are invited to the clubrooms of the English Speaking Union, Trafalgar square, London, where they will have an opportunity to meet people from America and England, who desire to make their acquaintance and fulfil the call for which the English Speaking Union stands. The clubrooms overlook Trafalgar square, and have been enlarged recently, to meet the demands from overseas. There is a standing invitation to all visitors from this State to use the clubrooms, and London headquarters will be delighted if visitors avail themselves of this opportunity.

Advertiser 16 FEB 1924

Mr. A. M. Lea, entomologist at the Museum, has been granted twelve months' leave of absence to investigate for the Department of Agriculture at Fiji a serious pest of the coconut now threatening the copra industry of Fiji with extinction. Mr. Lea will leave Adelaide on March 1, and will be accompanied by his wife and children as far as Sydney.

Advertiser 16 FEB 1924

At a meeting of the Medical Board on Thursday the following were registered as duly qualified medical practitioners:—Robert Kinnear Duiguid, M.B., Ch., Glas., 1921; John Samuel Kessell, M.B., B.S., Adel., 1923.