

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

VIOLIN, PIANO, AND FLUTE RECITAL.

The second concert in connection with the Elder Conservatorium series was given in the Elder Hall last night before a large audience. The members of the staff who contributed were Miss Sylvia Whittington, Mr. George Pearce, and Mr. Stanley Baines. Miss Whittington is leader of the South Australian Orchestra, an exponent of viola parts in chamber music, a brilliant solo violinist, and plays both pianoforte and organ with distinction. These facts show the wide range of the Adelaide musician's equipment. The most important work selected for this recital was a sonata for violin and piano by Darius Milhaud, leader of a band of modern French composers, known in Paris as "The Six." All are pledged to represent the ideals of modern French music, and in the case of this work by Milhaud, wonderful effects of modulation, rhythm, nuance, melodic line, and vibrant imagery create an atmosphere of great beauty. The three movements, written in 1911, and published in 1914, contain a continuous stream of intricate passage work for pianoforte, extending all over the keyboard in forms not easily covered by the fingers, and the violin is concerned with broad, flowing melodies, from sombre depths to joyous spontaneity. Two distinguishing features assert themselves, the clever flow of incessant harmonic contrast, and the constant changes of rhythmic device. Miss Whittington and Mr. George Pearce, in the presentation of this composition, proved their power to demonstrate the art of the French school, and also the charm of cultured ensemble playing. Miss Whittington's solos were from various contrasted sources, and evidenced her versatility of technique and interpretative powers. There were a "Sicilienne" by Bach, Saint-Saens' "Introduction et rondo capriccioso," and a group containing "Andantino," by Martini-Kreuzler; "Spanish serenade," by Chaminade; Zsolli's "Berceuse," and Kreisler's "Tambourin chinois." For these the audience showed their appreciation by prolonged applause, which necessitated the violinist's frequent acknowledgment.

Mr. George Pearce was the solo pianist, as well as accompanist to the violin solos. His realisation of Beethoven's sonata in C sharp minor, op. 27, No. 2 compelled the admiration of all who know it familiarly as "The Moonlight." The "Adagio" movement was deeply impressive, the "Allegretto" severely restrained to emphasise the suspended discords, and the "Presto agitato" taken at its true dazzling speed. A bracket of Palegri's "The sea" and the Debussy "Toccata" proved Mr. Pearce's efficiency in the portrayal of modern music, and its insistent artistic demands.

Mr. Stanley Baines, a leading flautist, and instructor of the flute at the Elder Conservatorium, played a bracket of four numbers. His finely graded tone, fluency of technique, breath control, and consequent finished phrasing were brought to a high standard of execution in the works "Wind among the trees," by Braccialdi; "Lost illusions," by Krantz; "Nightingale," by Donjon; and a "Scherzo capriccioso," by Sabathil. Miss Ariel Shearer was of valuable assistance as accompanist.

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.

AIMS OF UNIVERSITIES.

Dr. Harold Davies, Director of the Elder Conservatorium of Adelaide, returned from Melbourne on Tuesday after having attended a conference of the Australian Universities' Music Examination Board, including the State Conservatorium of New South Wales. Dr. Davies was accompanied by Mr. C. R. Hodge, who recently resigned his position as Registrar of the University of Adelaide. The conference was attended by representatives of every State in the Commonwealth, and Mr. Arundale Orchard, and Mr. Henri Verburgh, was a delegate from the New South Wales State Conservatorium. Dr. Davies had the honour of being appointed Chairman of the board, which, in effect, constitutes



DR. HAROLD DAVIES.
The director of the Elder Conservatorium of Adelaide, who has been elected Chairman of the Australian Universities Music Examinations Board.

an All-Australian Association, existing for the directing of musical education in Australia and the conducting of musical examinations throughout the Commonwealth. Dr. Davies said, when spoken to on Tuesday, that it might give some idea of the scope of the association's activities, when it was mentioned that last year more than 13,000 candidates were examined under its aegis in the Commonwealth. Every other faculty in the Australian universities, continued the doctor, were considered to be amply qualified to deal with the educational interests of their respective subjects, and in music, too, they claimed that Australia was quite capable of establishing its own standard of musical examinations. There were, of course, a great number of visiting examining bodies, some of which were quite reputable, and others which were not. They could not be mentioned by name. Most of them, however, were purely proprietary bodies, but the position in Australia was quite a positive one. Many matters of importance to the future of musical education in Australia were discussed, added the doctor. Mr. A. J. Leckie, of Perth, returned by the same train, and continued his journey by the Perth express.

STUDENT TEACHERS.

Instruction in Elementary Agriculture.

A short school of instruction in elementary agriculture, organized by the Education Department, is at the present time being carried on with great interest and enthusiasm at the Edwardstown Public School. This is the first school of its kind, and the second will be held at Michaelmas time, towards the end of September.

The school comprises two sections of three weeks each. During the first the teachers are devoting their attention principally to horticulture, and the second session will consist of lessons in animal husbandry. The work is both theoretical and practical; the latter being carried out in the extensive gardens of the Edwardstown School. There are 50 teachers in the school, and they range from young men to some 60 years of age. A number of them are farmers' sons, and others have been on the land, and are naturally experienced in the work. They come from as far north as Port Augusta; as far south as Mount Gambier; as far west as Yaninee, and as far east as Renmark. Mr. A. G. Edquist (Supervisor in Nature Study) is in charge of the school. In addition to the set work, evening lectures are given by various experts; some from within the Education Department and some from without. For instance, Mr. D. F. Laurie (Government Poultry Expert) delivered an address on "Poultry farming," and Mr. C. Bray (head master of the North Adelaide School) gave a demonstration in milk testing. A visit was paid to the Botanic Gardens, where Mr. F. J. Bailey (the Director) dwelt in a practical way on pot plant and bush house culture. Another visit of interest was that to Mr. Sturm's poultry farm at Seaton. Last Friday the students went to Kuitpo Forest, and on Wednesday afternoon they spent a pleasant time at the municipal nursery. On Wednesday evening Mr. Elston gave a lecture on "Useful and noxious garden insects," and tonight Capt. S. A. White will address the students on the "Useful birds of South Australia."

The Teachers.

Following is a list of the teachers, with the schools they represent, who are attending the school of instruction:—Messrs W. W. Hutson (Gilles Street), F. H. Davis (Alberton), K. Potter (Black Forest), T. F. Rice (Bask Range), T. B. Sard (Barmera), A. March (Clarendon), H. L. Haines (Compton Downs), T. M. Cameron (Cooberwie), D. D. Smith (Crafers), C. Miller (Eden Valley), D. Munro (Elliston), C. Hill (Freeling), P. C. O'Loughlin (Gawler Blocks), H. Watson (Glenburnie), E. Logan (Grange), A. Canning (Greenock), W. S. Gent (Hallett), D. Corry (Houghton), E. Ludwig (Kapunda), L. W. Pearson (Laura), G. A. Morphet (Mallala), L. K. Norsworthy (Monteith), S. A. Wilson (Mount Gambier), E. L. Doonan (Murray Bridge), S. R. Reynolds (Meribah), D. Carmichael (Port Adelaide), L. F. Ryan (Port Augusta), D. Dempster (Renmark), J. Welsby (Stansbury), E. J. Pryor (Tantanoola), A. J. Keats (Tanunda), A. Courtney (Truro), D. Langford (Unley), P. Bignell (Watervale), A. A. Pledge (Wellington Road), Muford (Westbourne Park), A. L. Morphet (Burrungull), H. Pillar (Charleston), S. Basham (Cummins), G. M. McGowan (Dolling's Corner), C. Naughton (Eden Hills), L. Marks (Hamilton), H. O. J. Robinson (Kulpara), B. Lewis (Monarto), R. Miller (Palmer), K. H. Warren (Paracombe), H. Lyndon (Swan Reach), E. Oborn (Woodchester), C. Ramsay (Yatina), and W. L. Moore (Yaninee).

THE AUSTRALIAN MUSIC EXAMINATIONS BOARD.

The Universities of Melbourne, Adelaide, Tasmania, Queensland, and Western Australia, and the State Conservatorium of New South Wales public examinations in practice of music, May, 1924.

Pass List for South Australia and Broken Hill. (The name of the school or teacher precedes that of the candidate, and is in larger type.)

GRADE I.
Credit.—CONVENTS—DOMINICAN, CABRA, piano, Byrne, M. T.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, singing, Cooke, M. C. M.

GRADE II.
Credit.—Miss E. V. WILLSMORE, piano, Kuntish, S. B.

Pass.—CONVENTS—DOMINICAN, CABRA, piano, Dignan, D. A.; LORETO, MARRYATVILLE, piano, Piek, A. G.; ST. DOMINIC'S PRIORY, piano, Holton, G.; Miss K. MEEGAN, piano, Fremson, V. F.; Miss SPROD, mezzo, Neumann, K. M.; Miss E. V. WILLSMORE, piano, Drummond, J. M. A.

GRADE III.
Credit.—CONVENTS—DOMINICAN, CABRA, piano, Drummond, R. A.; LORETO, MARRYATVILLE, piano, Piek, D.; Miss E. M. TUCKWELL, piano, Williams, N. E.

Pass.—CONVENTS—OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, piano Henley, M. A.; Smythe, R. A.; LORETO, MARRYATVILLE, piano, Roberts, R. M.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, singing, Cornelius, A. P.; Miss E. V. WILLSMORE, piano, Painter, J.; Ryan, E. N.; Miss A. M. COONLE, piano, Harway, E. E.; Miss W. HARRIS, piano, Norris, J. L.

GRADE IV.
Credit.—CONVENTS—OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, piano, Burts, V. E.; violin, Kenny, H. B.; ST. DOMINIC'S PRIORY, piano, Nelson, D. S. T.; ST. JOSEPH'S PORT ADELAIDE, piano, Klesch, V.; Miss A. MEEGAN, piano, Thompson, L.; Miss M. MEEGAN, piano, Evans, E.

Pass.—CONVENT—LORETO, MARRYATVILLE, piano, Sexton, K. L.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, piano, James, M. H.; OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, violin, Scuse, V.; Miss K. OHUTE-ERSON, piano, Schmel, D.; Miss K. MEEGAN, violin, Grant, M. A.; NORTH UNLEY SCHOOL OF MUSIC, piano, Swann, M.A.; Mr. C. W. WOOD, piano, Emery, I. M.

GRADE V.
Honors.—ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT, BROMPTON, piano, Johnson, D.

Credit.—CONVENTS—OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, piano, Wirth, M. W.; singing, Howard, E.M.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, piano, O'Neil, D. M. L.; singing, Betty, H. T.; ST. JOSEPH'S THEBARTON, piano, Murphy, E.; Miss E. MEEGAN, piano, Denny, K.; O'Malley, L.; Quirk, V.

Pass.—CONVENTS—OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, piano, O'Sullivan, H. M.; O'Sullivan, D. J.; singing, Ewing, L. S.; ST. JOSEPH'S THEBARTON, singing, Campbell, I. R.; Durick, W. G.; McNally, A. J.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, piano, Davis, I. M.; Rutson, E. G.; DOMINICAN, SEMAPHORE, piano, Carter, B.; ST. JOSEPH'S, GLADSTONE, piano, McNamee, M. M. M.; Miss S. K. COOMBE, piano, Hoeding, I. A.; Mrs. E. E. DICKSON, piano, Bastian, D. D.; Miss E. OHUTE-ERSON, piano, Hissler, E. R.; Miss G. JARRETT, piano, Wilson, P. E.; Miss M. OATS, piano, Osis, W. N.; Mr. O. W. WOOD, piano, Froburg, R.M.

GRADE VI.
Credit.—CONVENTS—ST. JOSEPH'S, THEBARTON, piano, Eldridge, M.; Fozza, C.; Green, M.; Isaac, E.; Jenkins, D.; OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, piano, Gill, D. M.; Dice, W.; DOMINICAN, SEMAPHORE, piano, Funder, C.; O'Leary, D.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, piano, Child, C. L.; Radford, M. A.; LORETO, MARRYATVILLE, piano, Hubbard, E.; ST. JOSEPH'S, BROMPTON, piano, O'Loughlin, K.; ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT ADELAIDE, piano, Harper, E.; Mrs. F. E. DICKSON, piano, Metcafe, D. M.; Metcalf, J. P.; Miss L. TAYLOR, piano, Roberts, W.; Spehr, M.; Miss L. BERNALDO, piano, Smith, V. A.; Miss S. K. COOMBE, piano, Worrall, L. R.; Miss A. MEEGAN, piano, Mansson, L.; Miss M. MEEGAN, piano, Bradwell, G.

Pass.—CONVENTS—ST. JOSEPH'S, PORT ADELAIDE, piano, Barnes, D. L.; Croft, E. M.; Hawkins, I. T.; Matson, I. L.; OF MERCY, PARKSIDE, piano, Betty, G. D. P.; Farrell, M. C.; Scuse, V.; ST. JOSEPH'S, THEBARTON, piano, Smith, P. O.; OF MERCY, ANGASTREET, piano, Ackland, E. I.; Miss E. L. JOHNS, piano, Ellis, A. A.; Siviour, M. E.; Tonkin, G. B.; Miss L. BERNALDO, piano, Reilly, E. C.; Mrs. E. H. EUSHELL, piano, Spomer, J. D.; Miss A. MEEGAN, piano, Valentine, P. A.; Mr. C. W. WOOD, piano, Polkinghorne, R. A.; Miss K. O'GRADY, piano, Hansso, V. M.

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AGRICULTURE IN SCHOOLS.

INSTRUCTION FOR TEACHERS.

As the outcome of the report and recommendations submitted to the Minister of Education by the Director (Mr. W. T. McCoy) as the result of his recent tour, a school for the instruction of teachers in the elements of agriculture is now being held at Edwardstown. This is one of the two instructional courses arranged for teachers at Easter, the other being in connection with the woodwork centres. Fifty country teachers, drawn from all parts of the State, received practical and theoretical instruction from Mr. A. G. Edquist, of the Education Department. The Edwardstown public school, where the instruction was given, has adjoining it extensive gardens which proved valuable for purposes of demonstration, and the practical work was carried out in them. The school is an entirely new departure in South Australia, being quite distinct from the agricultural high schools scheme. All the teachers came from primary schools in the country, and when they return it is expected that they will be able to impart knowledge of real value to those of their pupils who are to go on the land. The course, which is spread over three weeks, began a fortnight ago, and will conclude this week.

MUSICAL EDUCATION BOARD.

Professor Harold Davies, director of the Adelaide Conservatorium of Music, returned to Adelaide from Melbourne by the express on Tuesday morning. He attended a conference of the Australian Musical Education Board, which is composed of representatives of all the Australian Universities and the Conservatorium of Music of New South Wales. Its purpose is to hold examinations in the practice and theory of music.

Speaking of the conference, Dr. Davies said the work of the Australian board had steadily and rapidly increased during the past few years. In 1923 it reached highwater mark, when the board examined over 13,000 candidates. A further considerable increase was anticipated for the present year. The conference felt that the Australian Universities were fully as competent to undertake the direction of the general course of musical education in Australia as they were to conduct other faculties, such as science, law, art, and medicine. At the recent conference, which was attended by direct representatives of all the Australian States, matters of considerable moment in the music world were discussed.

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Mr. F. J. Gale, B.A. (Diploma of Commerce), has been appointed to the staff of Scotch College. Mr. Gale was educated at St. Peter's College and at the University of Adelaide, and has held important positions in New South Wales. He was senior classical and history master at the Armidale School, and at Cranbrook School. He will take up his duties at Scotch College at the beginning of next month.

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LATE DR. BIRKS.

WORKERS' GRATITUDE

PRESENTATION TO WIDOW

A very handsome appreciation of the work of the late Dr. Melville Birks has been presented to his widow by the workers of Broken Hill, in the form of a beautiful leather wallet, containing a cheque for £500. The inscription reads:—"Dr. Melville Birks. This wallet of £500 is presented as a token of respect and esteem from your many admirers at Broken Hill."

The cheque is signed on behalf of the subscribers by Mr. E. P. O'Neill as President, Mr. W. P. Campbell as Trustee, and Mr. Wm. E. Enksen as Secretary. The presentation was made to Mrs. Birks at her residence, 7, Kensington Road, Norwood, by Messrs. Lamb and Pearce, of Broken Hill.