

ADV. 1-9-27

# WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The Workers' Educational Association Central Council at a meeting recently, received a report from Mr. A. L. G. Mackay (director of tutorial classes) on the work of the classes for the current session. The enrolments for city and country classes are over one thousand. In addition to class lectures, periodical lectures are given at a number of country centres. The average attendance at both city and country centres has been satisfactory. The class libraries have been in demand, over eight hundred books having been borrowed to date. The director gave an outline of a visit he paid to country towns, including Mount Barker, Strathalbyn, Victor Harbour, Yankalilla, and Second Valley. He felt that there was a reasonable chance of starting classes or lecture courses in some of these towns.

Mr. G. McRitchie (general secretary) told the members of the Central Council of a visit he had made to Kerabrook where he attended a meeting of the local literary society when a social was held, there being present about seventy-five people. He also visited Gumeracha, where negotiations have been in progress for some time with a view to starting lectures. He saw the president of the Literary Society, also others who expressed the need for more educational work in the country towns. Monthly lectures may be arranged for these centres.

Classes for 1928 were considered, the feeling being that study circles, one year classes, and full tutorial classes (three year courses) should be tried for next year. It was suggested that students should enter the classes by way of the study circles, which would meet fortnightly for a year, and then join either a one year class or a three year tutorial class. It was decided to co-operate with other states in securing the services of the Hon. Bertrand Russell for a lecturing tour in 1928.

Mr. F. Goring was elected to the W.E.A. executive in place of Mr. J. L. Cavanagh, who has resigned on account of removal.

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## THE NEW UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.

Although the residence of Sir John and Lady Duncan, at Mitcham, which has been presented to the Presbyterian Assembly as a residential college affiliated with the University, has been built over 34 years, it is remarkably free from cracks. This is due to the fact that when it was built the architect (Mr. G. K. Soward) had a concrete and jarrah foundation put in, which has served the purpose for which it was designed. The erection of the house began in September, 1891, and was completed in July, 1893. It is a very fine country house, with spacious reception rooms, entrance hall and staircase, a billiard room, and a series of bedrooms, dressing-rooms, and bathrooms on the upper floor. It has spacious maids' quarters, kitchens, and servants' hall. It is terraced in front with terra cotta balustrades, now hidden beneath a wonderful growth of roses. It was erected of Tapley's Hill stone, and fitted internally with polished wood. The outbuildings consist of a very pretty lodge at the north-west entrance gate, roomy stables, a dairy, and a number of aviaries. The house is in the midst of a beautiful garden, and the views from it over the plains to the sea are exceptionally picturesque. The contractor for the building was Mr. N. W. Trudgen. It is interesting to recall that the grounds were part of the original Springfield estate of Mr. C. B. Hardy.

REG 30-8-27

## ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY.

### A Residential College.

### Gift of the Duncan Family.

The members of the family of the late Sir John Duncan and Lady Duncan propose to establish a residential college in affiliation with the University of Adelaide, and in connection with the Presbyterian Church in South Australia.

It is intended to transfer the former residence of Sir John and Lady Duncan at Mitcham, known as Strathspey, with the grounds (about 19 acres in all) to trustees for the purposes of the residential college, under a name to be decided upon by the council of the college when formed.

The faith of the college is to be Presbyterian; but no religious test is to be administered to any person in order to

entitle him to be admitted as a student of the college, or to the enjoyment of any of its privileges. The council of the college is to consist of 15 members (including the master of the college for the time being), at least 11 of whom are to be either members or adherents of the Presbyterian Church. The members of the first council are to be:—

- Mr. J. G. Balfour,
- Mr. T. E. Barr
- Mr. J. T. Gordon,
- Mr. N. M. G. Gratton,
- Professor Campbell,
- Mr. W. J. Isbiater,
- Rev. Dr. Davidson,
- Professor McKellar
- Mr. J. G. Duncan-Hughes,
- Mr. J. W. Sandford,
- Hon. W. G. Duncan,
- Dr. Malcolm Scott,
- Mr. M. A. Fotheringham,
- Rev. Dr. Seymour.

And the master of college when appointed. The Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly for the time being is to be ex officio visitor of the college. The council is to have the entire management of the affairs of the college, with power to make such statutes and regulations as may be necessary. It is intended that in due course a trust deed shall be executed, and that regulations for the government of the college shall be made by the proposed council. Application will then be made for affiliation with the University.

The proposal was favourably received by the Council of the University at its meeting last Friday. It received the approval of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church at a special meeting, which was held yesterday afternoon, when the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

The Assembly having had laid before it by the members of the family of the late Sir John and Lady Duncan through Mr. J. G. Duncan-Hughes a proposal for the establishment of a residential college in affiliation with the University of Adelaide, and in connection with the Presbyterian Church in South Australia, expresses its most cordial appreciation of the same; approves and sanctions the college as a Presbyterian College under the conditions named, and heartily thanks the donors for their munificent gift.

This is the second residential college to be founded in connection with the University of Adelaide. St. Mark's, which is connected with the Church of England, obtained affiliation with the University in 1924, and was opened for students in the following year. The very generous proposal which is now made helps to bring the University of Adelaide more into line in this respect with the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne. In Sydney there are five colleges in connection with the various denominations, and in Melbourne four.

REG. 2-9-27

Miss Marjorie Walsh sang to Dame Nellie Melba at Government House on Wednesday. Miss Walsh, who is a pupil of Mrs. Reginald Quesnel, at the Elder Conservatorium, is a young lyric soprano, and performed with success at the recent Wagner concert given by the South Australian Orchestra. She sang "Caro Nome" to Dame Melba, who spoke highly of her voice and suggested that she should go abroad to study, if possible. The diva characteristically sat down at the piano and gave Miss Walsh a lesson on "Caro Nome," as it was taught her by the composer, Verdi, himself. She also complimented Miss Alice Meegan upon her playing of the accompaniment.

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In proposing the toast of the Council of the School of Mines last evening, at the annual social of the Students' Association, Mr. R. S. Yorath said since their last gathering Professor Rennie had passed away. All felt deep sorrow at the loss which had been experienced. Professor Rennie's work was greatly appreciated, and his memory would always be revered by the students who had enjoyed the benefit of his capable instruction and wise counsel. Dr. L. Keith Ward said the council deeply regretted the loss suffered through the death of Professor Rennie, whose example of untiring preparedness, which was a feature of all his work, was an inspiration to all. The doctor also referred with regret to the death of Sir George Brookman, who had made the building of the school possible. It was a monument to his memory.

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The establishment of a Faculty of Theology at the University has been under consideration of the standing committee of the Diocese of Adelaide for some time, and the latest report of the committee states that the following resolution had been adopted by it—"That the committee heartily approves of the proposal carried in General Synod for an appeal to be made in conjunction with representatives of other religious communions to the university of Australia for the establishment of theological faculties. It believes that such faculties could be established as

other modern universities without any infringement of religious liberty or risk of sectarian difficulty, and appoints Archdeacon Moyes and the Rev. E. A. Radcliff to act with the Bishop on a committee with a view to asking the authorities of the University of Adelaide to establish a theological faculty."

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Miss Iris Robertson, who has returned to Australia by the R.M.S. Naldora, which arrived at the Outer Harbor on Saturday, is continuing her voyage to Sydney, where she will spend a few days with her brother, Mr. S. C. Robertson, B.Sc., B.E., before returning to Adelaide. Miss Robertson graduated M.A. at the University of Adelaide. During her B.A. course she won the John Howard Clark scholarship in English literature, and the Roby Fletcher prize in psychology and logic. Towards the end of 1925 she proceeded to the University of Paris to continue her studies. She headed the list of successful students in the cours de civilisation française, embracing French literature, art, and thought, and was awarded the degre superieur with honors. Further studies at the Sorbonne pour de française a l'etranger, and the certificat de l'Institut de Phonétique internationale. During her vacations in Europe Miss Robertson, who is the elder daughter of Mr. F. T. Robertson, of Colledge Park, toured Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Holland, Belgium, and Norway.

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## ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

A FINE PERFORMANCE.

Another triumph must be added to the list of achievements by the South Australian Orchestra as the result of the exceptionally fine performance given by that combination of talented musicians in the Adelaide Town Hall on Saturday evening. The main building was filled, and many people had to be accommodated in the organ gallery. It is evident that the orchestra is fulfilling its mission of cultivating a taste for superior instrumental music, and it must be gratifying to all concerned to see its efforts crowned with such success.

Chief credit for the excellent results is due to the conductor (Mr. W. H. Foote), whose musically instincts were stamped upon the efforts of the instrumentalists in practically every requirement for success. He had the players well in hand throughout, and they were obedient to his slightest wish. Thus the ensemble was well maintained. Precision and expression, which are so necessary in a programme of the kind, were prominent features, and good balance of tone was always preserved. The ornamental work of the solo instruments was pleasing, and the full choral effects were produced with decision and conviction. Delicate shades of tone color were secured in crescendo and diminuendo passages, and every item was full of interest to both the experienced musician and the ordinary music lover. The sense of sound of all was thoroughly satisfied.

The most ambitious item was the concerto in E minor for violin and orchestra (Opus 85), by Elgar. The general form of the work is compared to sonatas of Beethoven's middle period, in which an atmosphere is created in the earlier movements, so as to prepare for a brilliant finale. Tremendous demands are made upon the ability of the soloist, and so that he may give of his best, it is necessary that the backing of the full body of instruments should be in thorough sympathy with him. To attempt such work requires courage, and to carry it through with such success as was achieved on Saturday evening was a credit to all concerned, and particularly to Mr. Harold Parsons, the soloist, who proved himself particularly well adapted for the heavy task. The action of the conductor in shaking hands with him, and congratulating him in front of the audience, was unanimously approved. The composition abounds in beautiful melodic phrases arranged to display the lovely song-like tones which give the cello such a tender appeal to the ears. In addition there are passages which make exacting calls upon the executive powers of the soloist, and to all of these Mr. Parsons proved himself quite equal. The quiet beauty of the first movement, the more declamatory element in the second, the individuality of the third, and the development of the fourth into a vigorous finale, worked up by a rapid crescendo, were faithfully portrayed by soloist and orchestra. Another acceptable number which gave variety to the entertainment was the aria "Softly Awaken my Heart," from Saint Saens' "Samson and Delilah," sung by Miss Hilda Gill with orchestral accompaniment. Full justice was done to the lovely melody by the tuneful and expressive voice of the young vocalist. Her notes were clear, and balanced support was given by the orchestra. The singer was loudly

praised, and was brought back to bow for acknowledgment and receive floral tributes. A wealth of harmony was associated with the other items on the programme, which were solely of an orchestral character. To the English composer, Sullivan, was allotted the honor of opening and closing the programme. An excellent interpretation was given of extracts from the opera, "Princess Ida." Features of the work as played on Saturday night were the vigorous opening, the cornet solo, the echoing strains between the strings and flutes, and the brisk finish. Three dances from "Nell Gwyn" gave scope for excellent tone coloring, the concluding accords of the first one being well played. The oboe was pleasingly prominent in the pastoral duce, and the merry-makers' dance was well named, the music being full of fun and frolic, and quick movement. So delighted were the audience that the number had to be repeated. A "Colonial Song," in which the Australian pianist and composer, Percy Grainger, wished to express his feelings about his own country and people, was played with taste in a singing style in which the flutes, clarinet and oboe were heard to advantage. The conductor apologised for the fact that the piano was out of tune. A suite of incidental music composed by Norman O'Neill for Masterlink's play, "Blue Bird," was played with evidences of refinement. The number was highly appreciated as was also a sketch for string orchestra, "By the Tarn," composed by Eugene Goossens, in which a clarinet obbligato was effectively played by Mr. George Stocker. Sullivan's "Ouverture Di Ballo," which is described as an attempt at a free treatment of dance rhythms in symphonic form, was the concluding item, and again the orchestra excelled in its treatment of the various phases of a composition distinguished for brilliant writing. In this, as in all the other numbers, a large share of the credit must be bestowed upon the principal violinist (Miss Sylvia Whittington).

The next concert will be given in the Town Hall on October 1, when a programme of modern works of French and Spanish origin will be submitted.

ADV. 6-9-27

## A STUDENTS' CONCERT.

The 10th concert of the present season was given by students of the Elder Conservatorium in the Elder Hall on Monday night in the presence of an appreciative audience. The items were received with applause, and the general efficiency was well up to the high standard which always marks the students' work at these concerts. A varied programme was presented. It opened with an organ solo Concerto No. 5 (Handel), carefully played by Mr. Arnold Farley, who showed considerable promise. Miss Ellen Elford gave a pleasing rendering of the song "Birds' Noel" (Chaminade), and received a tribute of applause. Chopin's Nocturne in E Flat was invested with poetic feeling by Miss Jean Cook, a young pianist of decided talent. Mr. Hartley Williams secured pleasing tone in his violin solo Polonaise in D Major (Wieniawski). The vocal item, "Summer Fields" (Brahms) was treated in sympathetic style by Miss Lilian Wegener, whose voice was suited to the liquid music. Chopin's Scherzo B Minor (Opus 20) was played by Mrs. J. Black with attention to phrasing and good technique. Miss Muriel Lavender was cordially received in her oboe solo Romance No. 2 (Schumann). The instrument is not often heard in solo work at Adelaide students' concerts. Clay's popular song, "The Sands of Dee," was effectively presented by Miss Elsie Lademann. Brahms' Rhapsody in F Minor for piano was tastefully played by Miss Gweneth Thompson, who showed a true appreciation of the exacting writing. A bracket of "Orientale" (Cesar Cui), and Hungarian Rhapsody in D minor (Brahms-Joschim), made an effective contrast in style. Both items were given in excellent discernment by Miss Clarice Gmeiner, a violinist of creditable executive power. Miss Marjorie Peters had for her song, "So We'll Go No More a-Roving" (Maude Valerie White). She was deservedly applauded. Miss Miriam Hyde was happy in her piano number, the last movement of Grieg's Sonata in E minor. Two songs, "Thoughts have wings" (Liza Lehmann), and "The Dew Fairy's Song" from "Hansel and Gretel" were presented by Miss Kathleen Hutson, whose soprano voice was used to advantage in both items. Master Jack Illingworth gave a clever rendering as a flautist, of the "Graveyard Dance" (Lemmone). For the closing number the first movement of Mozart's Concerto in A was chosen, Miss Miriam Hyde being the pianist, with Mr. George Pearce at the second instrument. The melodious work was given with admirable taste, and the two instruments were in complete sympathy. Miss Alice Meegan, Muriel Prince, Mrs. Muriel Hyde, and Miss Peggy Palmer were capable piano accompanists.