

Students' Orchestral Concert

In the Elder Hall last night a concert was given by the Conservatorium Student Orchestra of 52 players, conducted by Mr. W. H. Footc. A pleasantly varied programme was provided, and in its interpretation there was clear evidence of painstaking practice and wise direction resulting in ensemble playing of higher calibre than is customary with student orchestras. Opened with Franz von Suppe's ever-welcome "Light Cavalry," it was at once evident that promptitude of attack and a vivid sense of tonal color marked the students' work, and this impression was strengthened by the delightful rendering of "Carmen" (Bizet). In a widely different vein came Mozart's Symphony in G Minor and his Overture to "The Marriage of Figaro," highly creditable style, particularly the allegro minuetto. Joseph Gungl, the famous Hungarian bandmaster, in his rhapsody, "Solenitudo," provided a useful lifting fare that was pleasantly dispensed by the students. Their last item was a selection from Sullivan's "H.M.S. Pinafore," in which they brought out all the limpid tunefulness and irresistible rhythmic charm of the English composer's work. Particularly effective was the clever orchestration of Sir Joseph Porter's song, "The joyous abandon of 'The British Tar is a Soaring Soul,' and the captivating "Englishman" chorus.

Assisting vocalists were Miss Isabel Burton and Miss Rita Watson. The former, a pupil of Mr. Harold Denton sang "Eisa's Dream," from Wagner's "Lohengrin," creditably. Miss Watson was also successful in her rendering of a Fraser McLeod "Song of the Hebrides" in promising style. Miss Alice McEwan played both pianoforte accompaniments with her accustomed artistry. Mr. Footc conducted the orchestra throughout with skill and judgment.

REG. 22-8-29

DEGREES IN FORESTRY PLANNED

Only School Will Be At Canberra

MELBOURNE, Tuesday.—The proposed School of Forestry at Canberra was discussed by the Standing Committee of the University Council today. The Council resolved that for the present there should be only one school in Australia for higher forestry, and that of degree standard, and favoured the granting of a licence on conditions suggested from Canberra. Each University, under the scheme, would receive a licence for its own use, and at Canberra course to produce his qualifications or a certificate of competency from the State forestry authority. Representatives from the Universities granting a degree in forestry would select one or more representatives on the Board controlling the Canberra examinations. The title of Bachelor of Science in Forestry was approved by the committee.

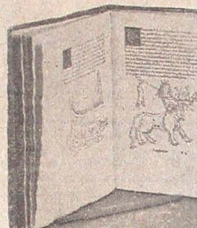
MAIL 17-8-29
HELP FOR SICK NATIVES

Belated Move by Federal Minister

CANBERRA, Today. An increased grant to the Lutheran Mission at Hermannsburg, the despatch of Dr. G. North Australian medical officer) to the affected area, and a request to the Adelaide University anthropological which is at present on the spot, to render assistance, are included in precautions taken by the Home Affairs Department (Minister) to deal with the outbreak of disease among aborigines near Alice Springs. Reports issued by Mr. W. L. Parsons (South Australia) in the House of Representatives yesterday indicated that it was feared that the disease was being

Links Between Yesterday and Today

Books were not always so easy to obtain as they are today. It is one of the privileges of the present age that even the best works are within the reach of the person of moderate means. Before the advent of the printing press books were rare and valuable things, hand-written and hand-painted by learned monks in the seclusion of the cloisters. In an age when few men could read and less write, they labored for years to produce creations that have long outlasted the delicate hands that wrought them.



THREE RELICS OF AN AGE PAST.—Preserved from the days when books were rare and costly things, these volumes are to be seen in the University Library. The book with a portion of chain riveted to the cover was once fastened in a parish church in England. The other volumes are more than 500 years old.

Few of these hand-written books remain in existence today. The Public Library is fortunate in possessing one such volume. The Adelaide University Library has also some particularly fine specimens of early literature, dating from the fifteenth century. The Public Library possesses a number of early books, and one of the oldest in South Australia is a hand-written volume, "The Offices of the Blessed Virgin," the original on vellum early in the fifteenth century. The first page is beautifully illuminated in colors and gold, and gilded capitals continue throughout the book. Such a volume, containing almost 1000 pages, is probably the work of years, and it is not surprising the text on the last

Books which link yesterday and today are to be found in Adelaide. Several of them are delicately wrought volumes, which breathe the spirit of the cloisters from which they have come. One work of centuries ago bears testimony that the one-time books were valuable enough to be kept in chains.

Another interesting volume is an early Dutch Bible, printed at Amsterdam in 1509. The leaves, which are beginning to turn yellow with age, are decorated with quaint woodcuts illustrating various scriptural scenes. On the title page is depicted the Crucifixion and the Resurrection, the Betrayal of Christ by Judas, and the



It is curious to note that a former owner of the volume, evidently of a modest disposition, has gone carefully through the wood-cut and blacked out every nude figure. Though the sentiment may be laudable, it has ruined the book. The modern critic who bewails the fact that our contemporary novelists write on the first subject that comes into their heads, may do well to study some of the old themes that inspired men to write. An early work of William Caxton, printed in England in 1485, is entitled, "A Treatise of Speaking of the Art and Craft of Knowing How To Die."

Another rare volume, owned by the University library, is an old law book written by the Emperor Justinian. The date on the binding is 1482, and the work was published in Venice. The leather binding is beautifully hand-tooled. The work is written in Latin, with ornamented and hand-painted capitals printed in blue, red, and gold. The coloring in these letters is beginning to fade with the passing of the centuries. The smaller text is printed in old Gothic lettering, and every letter is perfectly legible. This volume was presented to the library by Sir Samuel Way, late Chief Justice and Chancellor of the University. It was presented to him by the late Dr. S. Bevan, of the Stanley Street Congregational Church, North Adelaide.

A relic of the days when books were treasured only by a favored few is found in the little dust-covered volume "Book of Temptation of Adam and Eve." It is curious to note that a former owner of the volume, evidently of a modest disposition, has gone carefully through the wood-cut and blacked out every nude figure. Though the sentiment may be laudable, it has ruined the book. The modern critic who bewails the fact that our contemporary novelists write on the first subject that comes into their heads, may do well to study some of the old themes that inspired men to write. An early work of William Caxton, printed in England in 1485, is entitled, "A Treatise of Speaking of the Art and Craft of Knowing How To Die."

Dr. Cooke, who is at present on Barkly Tablelands, has been asked to go south as soon as possible. He is the Chief Protector of Aborigines in North Australia, and an expert in native diseases. The Adelaide University party is conducting research into aboriginal physique, and includes many medical men. The increase in the grant to Hermannsburg Mission is to be from £400 to £650 a year.

Rare Volumes in Adelaide Libraries

Devotional Homilies," owned by the library. This book was at one time chained to a pillar in the Bury Parish Church in England. A portion of the rivet and chain are still connected with the outside cover. The book contains a number of sermons, admonishing the reader to "remember goodness and piety at all times and to beware to covet thy neighbor's wife or his belongings to reach against contention, brawling and uncleanness, and not to whip thy servants unless they vex thee sorely." One gathers that even in those far-off times the servant question was a matter of some sixty.

The curious custom of fastening books to their shelves by means of chains was common enough in Europe in mediaeval times, and is seen in times universal in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries in churches. It was, of course, done as a safeguard against thieves, and as far as is known only in the case of printed books, Bibles and prayer-books were commonly chained to the backs of the pews in private chapels throughout England, and undoubtedly the custom, though inconvenient in use, was effective enough for its purpose.

The chains were of iron, averaging 3 ft. long, and were clamped to the front edge of the upper cover of the book by means of a rivet, the other end of the chain being provided with a ring which runs freely to and fro along a locked metal rod. Enough play was given by the chain to allow of the book being taken off its shelf and an angle read on the back cover at hand which was always provided for it.

Chains must have been inconvenient, and no doubt careful readers often got into trouble about them. On a notice concerning the library at King's College, Cambridge, in 1683, readers are requested to replace the volumes "recently withdrawn" and to "entangle the chains and causing unseemly disturbance." In the same library there is a record that the Devil carried off so many of the holy works that something had to be done, so the chains were blessed with holy water, since when the books have been safely preserved.

The University library also possesses an early volume of Geoffrey Chaucer's poems, printed in Holland in 1586. Each page is decorated with a wood-cut illustrating the text beneath, which is written in the quaint old English characteristic of the time. The fable of the Fox and the Grapes runs thus:—

"This foxe, that lonce for grapes did leape in vaine, with wermie limmes at lengthe did he departe."

And to have a goodly word, these grapes I see, because their taste is tarte. So show, that him'llt for that thou longe haift mist, Still makes thy boafe, thou mayst if it show lift."

Here we see the use of the letter "f" in place of "ff," a feature of the language of that time. An excellent example of the pains taken by the old printers to satisfy their works is a book on astronomy, "De Mundi et Sphere," by Nicolaus Pignora. Printed in Venice in 1485, it is beautifully illuminated, the capitals being painted with colors and gilding, and the chapter headings variable woodcut in art. This volume was presented to the library by Dr. Kenneth Fry in 1914.

Hand-painted capitals were first used to denote some form of punctuation. For the writing on the early manuscripts was continuous, no stops, no spaces, no sentences. The initial letters were enlarged and marked in red, and from that starting point came the gradual development of the beautiful ornate letters which are now so freely entwined among them. These serifs ultimately became rich borderings and sprays of flowers, and the way until we get the exquisitely illuminated manuscripts of the mediaeval times.