

blind man as try to make a musician out of children whose ears are deaf to musical sounds," added Dr. Davies. Both practice and theory were useless without the cultivated sense of hearing. In the public examinations syllabus, musical appreciation or perception, as it was called, was now accepted in place of theory. The object of Miss Gell's demonstration was to show what could be done in a collective way.

What Music Expresses

Miss Gell prefaced her demonstration with a talk on musical appreciation, which, she said, meant "estimating justly any particular work one may come in contact with." This involved knowledge in the first place, and then having intelligence and will. One must approach music as a whole and be able to see what it expressed. Knowledge demanded the technique of notation, the training of the ear to recognise sounds, intervals, melodies, harmonies, rhythms, nuances of expressing and phrasing. One must be able to analyse and recognise art forms; to distinguish passages of music and allocate them to their composer or a certain period; to write dates and incidents in the life of composers; and to make music.

The innovation of courses in appreciation were useless without being able to hear, Miss Gell said. The average singing class did not educate musically. If music were to become a vital part of the school curriculum, it must be done properly. She did not favor any attempt to teach aural work in conjunction with the singing class which, as a rule, was far too large for any real benefit to be derived from ear-training. The aural and appreciation classes must be as systematically and carefully graded as for any other subject. With the really musical ability possessed by dozens of teachers, they could be trained in the method and psychology of class teaching. Such a course for teachers was possible and at the end of a year they should receive a qualifying certificate.

The next step, Miss Gell said, should be the inclusion of music as a subject for public examinations in such a way that the instrumental part was not necessary. The sparing of time in the curriculum could not be a serious one, judged by the way in which English schools managed. The financial difficulty could be alleviated by having a suitable member of the regular staff trained, or by charging a small sum per head—the compulsory "extra" in which one college already managed.

Miss Gell explained the practice in English schools, and remarked that important features in schools she visited were the obvious interest of every student and the beauty of songs chosen.

Classes At Work

Miss Gell then explained the various grading of children in the classes present, their ages ranging from about seven to 17 years. The first lessons she gave dealt with sight singing, the aim being the development of tonality and reliability of pitch. The children were required to sing to a modulator, and ear tests were applied to songs and their transition to the staff explained. Modulation and harmony followed. The pupils were made to recognise cadences, sing chords in three parts, write down melodies and put in expression. Exercises in time and form were equally interesting. Books and charts were shown to play a large part in history lessons. The improvisation of tunes and recognition of moods expressed in different music were applied to all grades.

In the band section, the children were given triangles, tambourines, clappers and cymbals, and drums, and the percussion effects were admirable. Free conducting, rhythm patterns, and score reading were dealt with. Different girls were then allowed to conduct in the choral work section, their individual interpretation of little songs, formed interesting contrast. Miss Gell devoted the last 20 minutes of the demonstration to Dalcroze eurhythmics, which, she said, she considered to be absolutely indispensable, the physical experience of music making a lasting impression.

Adv. 24-8-34

Mr. Eric A. Rudd, a science graduate of the Adelaide University, sailed from Sydney by the Monterey on August 22 for Harvard University, Mass., U.S.A., where he will do post-graduate work in geology. Before sailing he was elected a member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

EXTRA ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

Tribute To Conductor; Musical Activities

The South Australian Orchestra, which recently achieved an outstanding success in association with Percy Grainger, will give an extra concert—making the sixth for the season—in the Adelaide Town Hall on October 6. This would be in the nature of a compliment by members of the orchestra to their conductor, Mr. Harold Parsons, the founder and director of the orchestra, Professor E. Harold Davies, said on Saturday.

Professor Davies said that Mr. Parsons had worked incessantly to maintain the orchestra's high standard. It was fitting, therefore, that he should be paid this tribute before his departure for Europe on a brief visit.

Apart from Mr. Parsons' great work as conductor, he was an artist of whom Adelaide could be proud. The Elder Conservatorium String Quartet, of which Mr. Parsons was the 'cellist, would give its final recital for this season on September 11, as Mr. Peter Bornstein, its violinist, was also leaving on a brief visit to London.

Professor Davies spoke highly of the achievement of the quartet (the other members of which are Sylvia Whittington and Kathleen Meegan) in presenting the early Beethoven quartets at the second series of Tuesday afternoon recitals. The next recital by the quartet will be on August 28, and the final one on September 11.

Violin Classes

Mr. Bornstein will return to Adelaide for the beginning of the new year at the Conservatorium, and will then give two years' continuous work at least. Dr. Davies anticipates the formation of violin classes at the Conservatorium next year under Mr. Bornstein. It is hoped that these classes will lay the foundation for the subsequent development of school orchestras such as have become a feature in England. Professor Bernard Heinze has made a great start in presenting orchestral programmes for children in Melbourne and Sydney, and it is expected that the S.A. orchestra will soon begin similar work here.

Great interest has been aroused in the reopening of the Elder Hall organ on Monday, August 27. Mr. John Horner has chosen a particularly arresting programme for his opening recital. He will have the assistance of drums in two numbers, and the effect is said to be exceptionally impressive. Assisting artists will be Peter Bornstein (violinist), Harold Parsons ('cellist), and Harry Wotton (vocalist). The "playing in" of the organ is progressing with most satisfactory results. The tone, volume, and general ensemble of the instrument is most impressive, and an inspiring evening is anticipated. It is expected that Mr. Horner will give a series of Thursday midday organ recitals soon after the reopening.

Adv. 22-8-34

WORK OF OBSERVATORIES

From a mass of technical data which, to the initiated, reveals the extent and value of the work of Adelaide Observatory, there emerges from the annual report of that institution which was presented to Parliament yesterday, the fact that a large part of the southern hemisphere takes its time from West terrace. Wireless time signals for shipping, it is shown, have been sent from the Observatory at 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. daily through VIA radio station at Port Adelaide, and broadcasting stations also use the signals. Automatic clock signals also have been sent from the Observatory to control the time used throughout the South Australian railways, and the time of the G.P.O. clock and all country telegraph and telephone stations. Signals are also sent daily to the Eastern Extension Cable Company and transmitted by that company as far as Cocos Island and Durban, South Africa. These signals are used to synchronise the transmitting instruments used in the cable stations. In addition, the Port Pirie time service has been maintained, and many private firms and clockmakers have communicated with the Observatory by telephone daily to receive the time. During the year investigations have been continued into problems connected with longitude, latitude, and seismology, a large number of earthquakes of sufficient intensity to be registered at seismological stations in all parts of the world having been recorded at Adelaide. Attention also has been paid to stellar photography, which has been carried out by an instrument made in the Observatory workshop, but the report stressed the necessity for up-to-date equipment in this respect. The weekly lectures and educational work also have been carried out.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

From "The Advertiser," August 23, 1884

AT its meeting yesterday, the Senate of the University of Adelaide agreed to the statutes for the establishment of chairs of music, anatomy, and chemistry. All that now remains to be done is to make the necessary appointments. The chance of music being included in the curriculum would have been remote had not private munificence supplied the requisite means. The Governor (Sir William Robinson), as the result of personal efforts, has been able to guarantee £500 a year for five years as salary for a professor of music.

Adv. 24-8-34

MUSIC AND EDUCATION

Lovers of music will be pleased to be reminded that they have but a few days to wait for the inauguration of this year's series of the school concerts of "a thousand voices." An interesting prelude was the demonstration for the benefit of teachers generally, which Miss Heather Gell, with the assistance of a class of thirty, gave a few days ago at the Elder Conservatorium, of how music should be taught—by aural training and the cultivation of a capacity for appreciation. A knowledge of musical values, as Dr. Harold Davies pointed out, is not to be achieved merely by "hammering away at dull exercises." It is a great thing, in any case, to have the utilitarian side of our State school system humanised by music, which, as Milton proclaimed in his "Hidden Soul of Harmony," deserves a prominent place in the ideal course of study. But it is well to recognise that, while the faculty of appreciation admits of cultivation, methods of teaching are not excluded from the law of progress, which, as Browning tells us, is the law of life.

Milton, who took the widest view of the subject, had in mind "the whole symphony." But a world of value also attaches to the voices of the young, which, not only for their own benefit, it is important to attune and discipline. One scarcely needs to be reminded of Shakespeare's dictum on this subject—

... there is none so stockish, hard and full of rage,
But music for the time doth change his nature,

as, he might have added, it did that of Saul, from whom, in "his moments of passion, the evil spirit was driven by the dulcet tones of David's harp." It does not reflect on the concerts of the combined schools, that in their inception in 1891 they had no such exalted purpose, or, in fact, any object at all, other than the relatively modest one of raising money enough for the decoration and beautification to the schools; to which asset, as the experiment succeeded and funds increased from year to year, were added pictures, books, and even pianos and orchestral instruments, all tending to the enrichment of the aesthetic side of scholastic life. How much the success of these concerts was due to the patience and enthusiasm of their organisers and conductors, it would be difficult to measure; it must suffice to say that Messrs. Alexander Clark and W. J. McBride have had a worthy successor in Mr. Frank Gratton, who has wielded the baton ever since Mr. McBride relinquished it as long ago as 1921. Of the "profit and delight" of music in later life, to those who learn it when young, there is no doubt; and if there were any doubt as to the contribution made to the cause of art by these concerts, and the preparation for them, during the past forty years or more, it would be dispelled by the assurance of Professor B. Heinze, of the Melbourne Conservatorium, on his visit to Adelaide a little more than twelve months ago, that the popularity which music has attained in this State may be traced largely to the love for it contracted in the schools. Thus, as in so many other valuable branches of human activity, the pioneers may be said in accordance with the Emersonian apothegm, to have builded better than they knew.

MINING PROSPECTS IN ADELAIDE HILLS

Favorable Outlook, Says Sir Douglas Mawson

VALUE OF OLD PROPERTIES

Discussing yesterday the possibilities of the economic development of mineral deposits in the Adelaide Hills, Sir Douglas Mawson, Professor of Geology and Mineralogy at Adelaide University, said that already a considerable range of mineral occurrences of economic value had been located.

"Barytes, kaolin, felspar, talc, and rutile have, for long past, been regular export articles," he said. "Roofing slates, flagstones, freestone, marble, and a variety of other ornamental and building stones are located within easy access to the city, and in such diversity as far to transcend the possibilities in any other capital of the Commonwealth."

"So far as ores of the base metals, lead, zinc, copper, and iron, are concerned, very numerous occurrences have been recorded within easy distance of Adelaide. Many of these will doubtless eventually be profitably worked. For the most part, the deposits of this nature as at present known to occur in this region were found at the time they were opened up to be either too narrow or difficult to treat, owing to complexity of ore minerals. With advances in technique in mining and metallurgical practice, some of the difficulties formerly encountered have been solved, and it only awaits an improvement in the market value of base metals to bring into active operation certain of the known local ore bodies. The improvement in the market value has already been achieved in the case of the precious metals, particularly gold. Hence the time has arrived when the principal gold-bearing formations formerly worked and already shows by development to be of useful proportions, but which, under the then existing conditions failed to pay, should be again reviewed. The larger and more promising concerns of this nature in the Adelaide Hills now, unquestionably, have prospects of success which were denied them when gold was half its present value, and the technique in winning it, in its infancy, as it was 50 years ago, compared with the present situation.

Gold Easily Found

"Though gold is one of the most valuable metals yet it is at the same time one of the most easily detected. In fact, by simple mechanical devices and without any extensive training or brain power gold can be readily located when occurring in rocks and gravels in but the merest traces. Thus, it is certain that, when the Adelaide hills were well combed through by prospectors in the early gold rush days, little of importance escaped them. It may be taken for granted that, for all practical purposes, the important auriferous localities have been defined, and, in fact, that the most important auriferous lodes have been located and developed to the extent economically warranted under the conditions prevailing some decades ago.

"It follows, therefore, that our hopes, so far as gold in the Mount Lofty Ranges is concerned, lie in what were the more promising developments demonstrated in the past; that is to say, in such mines as the Bird-in-Hand, the old Balhannah mine the Kittikoola, and others that attained considerable importance in the past.

"Since those mines operated, their economic outlook has entirely changed. Gold is now worth so much more, mining methods and machinery have been revolutionised, coping with the influx of underground water in regions of igneous and metamorphic rocks, such as constitute the Mount Lofty Ranges, no longer presents difficulties, electric power is available in this particular locality at a most favorable rate, and, finally, the cyanide process for stripping the tailings of the last few penny-weights of gold has been evolved since those mines were operated.

"Thus the present position with these mines is entirely different from what it was. Also on account of favorable living conditions as regards climate, abundance of water and timber, the geographical situation could not be better. Therefore, with such promising prospects, and because big-scale mining developments near Adelaide would be very beneficial to the State, it behooves South Australians to exert every effort to have these mines reopened and exploited under wise and efficient direction."