

Advertiser Nov^r 15/87

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS IN MUSIC.

Professor Ives conducted the examinations in music at the University on Monday, and the following candidates in the Junior Division passed first class in order of merit. It is worthy of mention that Miss Hodge obtained the full number of points (100), and that Mr. Blackburn and Miss Davies tied for third place with eighty-five marks each. In the vocal competition Miss Woolnough and Miss Jury were credited with ninety-five and ninety-two respectively. The teachers' names follow those of the students:—

SINGING.—Misses E. Woolnough (Herr Von Reyher), A. E. Jury (Mr. J. H. Fray), and C. Pflaum (Mount Barker Ladies' School).

PIANOFORTE-PLAYING.—Misses E. M. E. Hodge (Herr Reimann), J. T. Fellows (private tuition), Mr. J. W. G. Blackburn (Herr Bertram), Misses V. A. Davies (private tuition), F. E. Davey (Miss McMinns), D. E. Bosch (Mrs. J. Loessel), F. E. Goode (Hardwicke College), E. N. Seabrook (Herr Reimann), C. Pflaum (Mount Barker Ladies' School), Mr. C. H. L. W. R. Nitschke (Mr. W. R. Pybus), Misses J. M. Simpson (Miss M. E. Jones), E. Hastwell (Mr. Wachtel, Yorketown), R. M. Everard (Herr Püttmann), R. M. Loessel (Mrs. Loessel), M. K. Harkness (Mr. J. Shakespeare). **Second Class**—Misses A. M. Bowman (Herr Von Reyher), F. Kelly (Herr Reimann), F. Wylie (Hardwicke College), M. O. Lower (Herr Püttmann), M. A. Sharpe (Mr. Williams, Semaphore), F. A. W. Johnston (Mr. J. Williams), K. J. Westwood (Hardwicke College), R. B. Harvey (Mr. Williams), S. M. Smith (Mr. W. R. Pybus), K. M. Staples (Mr. T. H. Jones), L. Ind (Hardwicke College), M. A. Sabiston (Miss Adams).

The results in the senior examinations will be published to-day.

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PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS IN MUSIC.

The result of the examinations in music in the senior division, which were conducted at the University on Monday by Professor Ives, was as follows:—

PIANOFORTE-PLAYING.—**First Class**, in order of merit—Misses M. B. Brinsden (Herr Reimann), H. L. Davies (Herr Püttmann), E. C. Cooper (Herr Reimann), V. L. Sheridan (Herr Reimann), K. B. Hames (private tuition), M. Reimann (Herr Reimann), F. S. Hawkins (private tuition), L. K. Shorney (Herr Reimann), A. A. Townsend (W. R. Knox). **Second Class**, in order of merit—Misses J. B. Fraser (W. R. Pybus), M. G. Nankervis (Miss F. Tilly), M. E. Eaton (T. H. Jones), J. R. Wilson (W. B. Chinner).

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THE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—The treatment of candidates at the recent preliminary examination in elementary (?) arithmetic has, apart altogether from the grievous disappointment of the little students who were confronted with the paper, a most injurious effect as regards the proceedings of the University itself. I take it that it is one of the main principles of Universities to be the very soul of honour in dealing with those who desire to enter the portals of the institution. I am sure this is what the munificent donors of funds for the establishment expect, and it is the only way to create in the minds of students that perfect confidence in the Professors without which no University can succeed. The very learned and highly cultured law lecturer who set the paper would be compelled, if consulted as a lawyer, to advise that the paper is a gross breach of faith with the candidates, that it is a breach of agreement with those who have paid their fee to enter, that any calculation of marks based upon the questions which have gone outside the category of "elementary arithmetic" as defined in the calendar would be absolutely illegal, and that the entire examination is so far vitiated by the paper that a Court of Law would compel the examining Council by injunction to set a fresh paper. If the very learned gentleman cannot bring his mind down to something like the standard of the average boy or girl intellect, surely some one with less of the admirable Crichton about him could be found to set a paper. What are we to think of the University authorities who stand quietly by and see a grave injustice perpetrated at the very outset of the annual examinations? The boy-mind rebels against anything unfair, and the faint-hearted ones, whose special power does not consist in reducing a chaos of figures to something like order, must have received a shock quite sufficient to dishearten them in the future.

Let any two of our medical men have a look at the weary eyes and the nervous weakness of many of the hard-crammed boys and girls who were stuffed with useless problems for this and other examinations. They would discover that while the brain is being inordinately exercised the life and physical vigour of these children are being undermined. Is it right that a knowledge of arithmetic such as seems to be indicated by the paper is to be a *sine qua non* for admission for any purpose within the portals of this young institution? The University authorities will do well to look to this lest the career of the institution may receive a sudden and unexpected check. Perhaps the professors only bargain for a certain amount of work as regards numbers, and think it well to exclude all but a few brilliant boys and girls. I trust this is not so, but it looks remarkably like it. Many students of my acquaintance would like to see the examiners' solution of problem vii. in the questions. I think the proper answer is, not as in racing parlance "nowhere," but "anywhere you like."

I am, Sir, &c., OCTOPUS.

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UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.—In connection with the late Preliminary Examination at the University we have been supplied with the following list, showing the subjects in which the unsuccessful candidates failed:—Arithmetic only, 69; dictation only, 3; grammar only, 2; composition only, 3; arithmetic and composition, 9; arithmetic and grammar, 3; arithmetic and dictation, 2; composition and dictation, 1; composition and grammar, 1; composition, dictation, and arithmetic, 1; dictation, grammar, and arithmetic, 2; all subjects, 5.

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THE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—The expected has happened, and fully a third of the candidates at the recent preliminary examination have failed. This is bad enough, but to those who know something of the candidates who presented themselves the matter is really much worse. This is the first preliminary examination under the new arrangements, and as it is necessary for those who wish to pass the new senior examination to first pass the preliminary, a large percentage of the candidates were not juniors, but were 16 or 17 years old, some even older, and to these of course the arithmetic paper was an easy matter. If we could deduct all the candidates of 16 years of age and over from the list I strongly expect that we should find that quite half of the really junior candidates who presented themselves, and for whom the examination was intended, have failed. In the circumstances I think that the least the University authorities can do is to allow such candidates as have failed in arithmetic alone to go on with any further examination they may desire to pass, as though they had passed the preliminary.

I am, Sir, &c.,
A SCHOOLMASTER.