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THE INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.

Some time ago His Excellency the Governor impressed upon the University students the importance of the Indian Civil Service, and urged them to seek to enter it. In connection with the same matter about the same time he wrote to the Secretary of State as follows:—

Government House, Adelaide,
October 3, 1900.

Sir—I desire to bring before your notice the desirability of offering special facilities to young Australians who wish to enter the civil service of India. 2. There are at present in the Universities and colleges of Australia a number of young men of intellectual power and fine physique, who are accustomed to a climate much hotter than that of England, and some of them would, I believe, be admirably suited for the service. Under the existing regulations, however, they are practically excluded, or, at least, their entrance is made difficult. If the regulations are construed literally, Australian candidates are absolutely ineligible, for the evidence of age which is required applies only to candidates born in the United Kingdom or in India, or on board British ships. But even if a certificate of birth in another part of the empire is allowed, a further difficulty is caused by the fact that all candidates, whether suitable or not, are obliged to go to London for the examination. The expense and delay of the voyage is a serious drawback to those who reside ten thousand miles away. 3. There appear to be two ways by which the difficulty might be overcome, either (a) by holding examinations at some centre in Australia; or (b) by offering a limited number of appointments to young Australians who pass a special qualifying examination, in a somewhat similar manner to the present system with regard to cadetships and engineer studentships in Her Majesty's navy. (See the Navy List for July, 1900, pages 690 and 697 b.). 4. I can understand that there may be serious objection to the former plan; it is, therefore, the latter which I desire specially to suggest. 5. Of course, after passing the qualifying examination, the successful candidates would have to proceed to England to continue their studies; but that would cause no difficulty. 6. Even if there are no suitable candidates who would be prepared to pass at the next examination, I believe that the fact of such facilities being offered would induce the Australian Universities to establish special classes, and that in a few years eligible candidates would be forthcoming. The presence of a few of Her Majesty's colonial subjects amongst the members of the Indian Civil Service might not only be a source of strength to the service, but also a means of drawing more closely together the various parts of the empire.—I have the honour to be, Sir, &c., Tennyson.
The Right Hon. J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Reg 15th Jan. 1901.

We have received from the Registrar of the Adelaide University the calendar dealing with the examination papers and class lists in respect to the preliminary junior and senior examinations for 1900 and the regulations and details of subjects for the preliminary, primary, junior, senior, and higher public examinations to be held this year. Appended are some interesting reports from the examiners concerning the progress shown by the students of last year.

Ad. 15th Jan. 1901.

The University of Adelaide has published in pamphlet form the papers set at the recent preliminary, junior, and senior examinations, together with the names of the successful candidates and the reports of the examiners. The regulations in connection with the primary, junior, senior, and higher public examinations of the present year are also included.

Register 17th Jan. 1901.

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

To the Editor.
Sir—Your excellent article in "The Register" of this morning on "Why not a University Commercial Examination?" will, I am sure, be read with extreme pleasure by all interested in business training, and I trust will be the means of securing for commercial education the public recognition which it deserves. In an age such as ours which is pre-eminently commercial, there can be no doubt that it is within the province of the university authorities to interest themselves in commercial education, and to encourage a higher degree of general proficiency in business men. Any course of commercial studies, however, which would exclude such indispensable subjects as shorthand, bookkeeping, and typewriting would defeat its object, for never has there been a greater demand among business men for youths trained in these practical subjects than there is to-day. The action of the University of New York in establishing a degree of Bachelor of Commercial Science (B.C.S.) affords an example of the progress of business education there, and let us hope that progressive South Australia may not lag too far behind in that respect. "The Bachelor of Commercial Science," says the "Cambridge (Mass.) Tribune," "will be well versed in practical mathematics and law, commercial and marine, practically applied modern history and ethics, and modern languages, as well as stenography and typewriting. A young man thus equipped will be fitted for the most responsible positions, and will be reasonably sure of a successful business career."
I am, Sir, &c.,
W. MURDEN.
Murdens College, January 17.

WHY NOT A UNIVERSITY COMMERCIAL EXAMINATION?

"Boy wanted for office" is a style of advertisement which will always bring a crowd of youthful aspirants. But the exact kind of boy who is wanted is sometimes a very difficult individual to discover among the lot. The species of boy who can be trusted to take a note precisely and carry a message correctly; who can write a letter according to simple instructions in correct spelling and grammar, and who possesses both the aptitude and the training necessary to fit him for learning to assist in keeping a set of books—this type of youth is certainly not by any means so abundant in nature as what the naturalist would call the common, or garden, boy. It is a very strange fact that until quite recent years commercial men have as a rule taken no steps whatever to secure the continuance of a supply of lads who might be trusted to take their places among office workers and other traders. Any isolated instance in which concerted action is adopted with this object is sure to attract a good deal of notice owing to its very rarity. At Bradford, in England, last year, a new "School of Commerce" was established by arrangement between the authorities of the Bradford Grammar School and the local Chamber of Commerce. The course—which is intended for boys from fourteen to seventeen years of age—extends over three years, and includes, besides English, German, and French, together with mathematics, such subjects as business methods, bookkeeping, economics, and geography. In Sydney some of the leading commercial men have recently been endeavouring to foster the study of subjects cognate to office work by establishing a series of examinations in them. The certificates awarded to successful candidates are highly prized, and a youth possessing one of them will usually have a much better chance of securing a desirable position in a commercial house than one who has not a similar recommendation.

In the higher branches of commercial and financial work the value of a certificate issued by a competent body is illustrated by the success of the diplomas granted by the Australian Institutes of Accountants. The recognition of accountancy, as a profession which requires from the law at least the protection of legal definition, was urged by Mr. G. T. Lane, of Adelaide, in a paper which was read before the recent conference of accountants in Sydney. The cogency of Mr. Lane's reasoning is undeniable. When the Legislature, in such measures as the Companies Acts, expressly provides that certain duties shall be performed by auditors, it should also indicate some means by which shareholders and others may ascertain whether candidates for the positions are qualified. It has sometimes happened that auditors have been elected who could not sign their names, and many of those who were responsible for entrusting them with the duty of checking important accounts had no knowledge of the fact. Surely such a state of affairs demands a remedy such as legislative recognition of the profession of accountancy could supply. The form which that recognition should take is matter for further and careful consideration.

The whole subject of practical education in its bearings not only upon manufacture but also upon commerce has been opened up in England through the widespread interest aroused by the speeches of Lord Rosebery and Mr. Asquith. Parents and employers alike feel that when school fees are paid they have a right to demand that the education imparted shall be of a character to send out lads who are mentally alert and not mere scholarly dreamers. The course prescribed for a boy who is intended to enter a commercial house should be in some respects quite different from that which must necessarily be followed by those who intend to enter the learned professions; and, moreover, it is eminently desirable that the highest educational authorities, whose duty it is to direct aright the lines upon which the secondary schools shall proceed, should take this matter up. The University, which conducts examinations and grants certificates in so many subjects ought to prescribe some kind of useful

course, in commercial studies also. There is no doubt whatever that if an examination were instituted of about equal grade with the Senior Public at the University of Adelaide, but directed to the testing of proficiency in commercial subjects, as also English, modern languages, and arithmetic, the certificates granted to those who passed would be eagerly sought after. Such a department of educational work would be at least as distinctly within the province of the University as the teaching of music and the conducting of examinations in instrumental playing. American Universities have travelled further, and award degrees in commerce corresponding to those in science, arts, and law. In every branch of trade and productive industry, as well as in commerce, one great need of the age is method; and it is not without reason that one of the subjects taught at Roseworthy Agricultural College is how to keep a set of farm books. A very large number of lads besides those who are actually going into offices would receive the greatest benefit from a course directed towards the passing of a commercial examination at the University.

Register 28th Jan. 1901.

His Excellency the Governor has received the following additional letters of condolence:—
From the University of Adelaide.—"By direction I have the honour to request that you will kindly convey to His Excellency the Governor the following resolution which was passed by the council at their meeting yesterday:— "The University of Adelaide shares the universal and profound grief which the lamented death of our revered and illustrious Queen Victoria has caused throughout the empire; and assures His Excellency, the Governor of this State, and visitor of the University, of its deep and loyal sympathy with His Majesty the King, and with all the members of the royal family."

Evening Journal 29th Jan 1901.

PROCLAIMING THE KING.
The following is the text of the proclamation:—



Adelaide, South Australia, Jan. 28, 1901.
"Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God to call to His Mercy our late Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria, of blessed and glorious memory, by whose decease the Imperial Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and all other Her late Majesty's dominions is solely and rightfully come to the High and Mighty Prince Albert Edward: We, the Right Honourable Hallam, Baron Tennyson, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor in and over the State of South Australia and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia; the Hon. Frederick William Holder, M.P., Premier and Treasurer of the said State; the Hon. John Greeley Jenkins, M.P., Chief Secretary of the said State; the Hon. John Hannah Gordon, M.L.C., Attorney-General of the said State; the Hon. Laurence O'Loughlin, M.P., Commissioner of Crown Lands of the said State; the Hon. Richard Whitty Foster, M.P., Commissioner of Public Works of the said State; the Hon. Egerton Lee Batebeler, M.P., Minister of Education and Agriculture of the said State; the Hon. Sir Richard Chaffey Baker, K.C.M.G., President of the Legislative Council of the said State; the Hon. Sir Jenkin Coles, K.C.M.G., Speaker of the House of Assembly of the said State, therefore do now hereby, with one full voice and concert of tongue and heart, publish and proclaim that the High and Mighty Prince

Albert Edward is now, by the death of our late Sovereign, of happy and glorious memory, become our only lawful and rightful Liege Lord, Edward the Seventh, by the Grace of God, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India, Supreme Lord in and over the State of South Australia and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia, to whom we do acknowledge all faith and constant obedience with all hearty and humble affection, beseeching God, by whom Kings and Queens do reign, to bless the Royal Prince, Edward the Seventh, with long and happy years to reign over us."
(Signed) Tennyson, F. W. Holder, J. G. Jenkins, J. H. Gordon, L. O'Loughlin, R. W. Foster, E. L. Batebeler, R. C. Baker, Jenkin Coles.

GOD SAVE THE KING!