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THE ANDREW SCOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE.

The sum of £105 has been subscribed and handed to the council of the University as an endowment to provide for an annual prize for the purpose of perpetuating the memory of the late Mr. Andrew Scott, B.A., who was widely esteemed in educational circles, particularly in connection with his work as superintendent of teachers in attendance at the University Training College. The prize will be of the present value of £5 5s, and will be awarded on the results of the first year's examination in Latin for the B.A. degree. It will be open for competition in November next.

UNIVERSITY MUSICIANS' CONFERENCE.

Professor Franklin Peterson and Mr. H. A. Thomson, of the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, have been engaged officially in Adelaide during the past few days. They have taken part in a conference of the Examination Board of the University of Adelaide and the Faculty of Music, in accordance with the contract of the two Universities that such a conference should be held annually. At the gathering questions of general policy and a number of important subjects were discussed. Among the latter was the entire remodelling of the current syllabus, which it is desired to make in every respect the nearest approach possible to perfection. Regarding one phase of musical life in South Australia, the Melbourne delegates pointed out that they themselves had experienced strong and organized opposition in Victoria to the formation of the joint scheme of examinations; and they were surprised that the opposition in this State should give our University authorities cause for any anxiety, since the antagonism here was neither so strong nor so well organized as that which they met with in Victoria in the early days of the examination scheme. Professor Peterson and Mr. Thomson emphasized strongly that, having fought their own battles and come out victorious in every sense, they were both able and willing to help the University of Adelaide to fight opposition of whatsoever kind, and thus enable the local authorities to make as great a success musically and financially as had been the case in Victoria.

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Mr. Henry Brose, who was awarded the pianoforte scholarship, tenable at the Elder Conservatorium, having resigned the same, the council of the University awarded the scholarship to Ethel Annie Doonan, who was marked *proxime accessit* in the competition.

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Mr. H. L. Brose, an ex-pupil of Prince Alfred College, was in March awarded a scholarship for three years' free tuition at the Conservatorium. Mr. Brose also last December gained the right to the second Government scholarship, open to students throughout the State under 18 years of age, for three years' tuition at the Adelaide University. On account of the regulations of the Education Department, he has resigned the former scholarship in favour of the latter distinction.

A MUSICAL CHAT.

NORMAL PITCH.

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS.

Professor Franklin Peterson, of the University of Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, was interviewed by a representative of The Register at the Gresham Hotel on Tuesday at the conclusion of the annual conference in connection with the joint scheme of musical examinations, which are controlled by the Universities of Adelaide and Melbourne.

Questioned concerning normal pitch and its application in Victoria, the Professor replied:—"Well, you remember that following the example of the Education Department in Victoria, your own Minister of Education, through the Director, agreed to adopt normal pitch in all institutions under the control of the Education Department. When I returned to Melbourne last October I sent a circular to every secondary school in Victoria in which music was taught pointing out the immense advantages of having a uniform standard at that pitch, which had been adopted by every civilized country in Europe except England. I was able to point out one feature which would make the proposed change an easy one. That was that no expense would be involved so far as the pianoforte instruments used in the schools were concerned. I received over 50 acceptances of my proposal, many of them couched in warm and even enthusiastic terms. Thus, in all Victorian State schools, the Continuation School, the Training College, and in all the most important secondary schools the normal pitch is now being used.

—Normal Pitch Instruments.—

"In order to keep the necessary standard by which tuning forks and like instruments could be tested at any time, the Minister of Education authorized me to obtain from Europe, at Government expense, a set of standards, which will be kept by the university in the physical laboratory under the immediate charge of Professor Lyle. At the University Conservatorium itself it was impossible to adopt normal pitch throughout the institution on account of concerted work with the orchestra at rehearsals and public performances. But from the moment Madame Melba so handsomely inaugurated my scheme of raising the necessary sum of money with a donation of £55 I felt justified in accepting the offer of Messrs. Boosey & Co. to provide a complete set of orchestral instruments at a figure which was equal to a rebate of the value of Madame Melba's donation. The full sum has been nearly raised, and the instruments are now in Melbourne; and since October the University Conservatorium has taken its proper place as the head and crown of the movement by having all its pianofortes tuned to what is now the Government standard in Victoria. I think it highly desirable that a body such as your Music Teachers' Association here, which professedly exists in the interests of music, should devote its attention to this most desirable reform, instead of spending its time formulating plans in opposition to the State University authorities."

—A Popular Movement.—

"Is the Registration of Teachers Act in force in Victoria yet?"—"Yes, and it has exercised already a great influence in the musical world. Necessarily, all teachers who had been teaching for a certain period before July 1, 1906, were admitted to registration unconditionally. In letters to the Victorian press I pointed out the advisableness of teachers taking advantage of this opportunity to form themselves into a solid body, which would have the authority of unanimity in approaching the Registration Board, or any other body on musical questions. The result was that over 3,000 teachers applied to have their names placed on the register, and it took a long while for an Advisory Board of professional musicians to deal with these applications and grade them as primary and secondary. The inevitable step of instituting an examination for applicants who applied after the expiry of the specified date has now been taken."

—Teachers' Certificates—

"The Registration Board has laid down as a standard for the primary grade the matriculation in music examination of the University of Melbourne. That means grade III. of the scheme conducted by the joint Universities of Melbourne and Adelaide. For the secondary grade the standard fixed is that of the diploma of music in the University of Melbourne. In order to meet the necessities of the case the Melbourne University Examination Board has re-drafted the syllabus of the already existing teachers' certificate, and has submitted it to the Registration Board. This body, through Professor Spencer, has agreed to accept it as the official standard; and thus candidates from any part of Victoria are enabled to obtain a certificate, the possession of which will enable them to be registered as secondary teachers without any further examination, such as is required in the meantime from those who have passed the matriculation, or even those who hold the diploma of the University Conservatorium. I think it is worth your noting that while the Registration Board has fulfilled its duty by recognising to some extent certain high certificates of visiting examination bodies, it has emphatically declared that an additional examination in the art of teaching must be undergone supplementary to these, and that while these examinations are recognised now the standard will be raised in 1910 to that which it has accepted from the University Examination Board as its ideal. As we have already the syllabus for certificated teachers as part of the scheme of examinations conducted by the joint board of the two universities, the Registration Board, when it is appointed in South Australia, would find that its own university is already in possession of the certificates and the necessary machinery, which has been provided by experience in Victoria. The first examination under this new syllabus will be held in Melbourne at an early date."

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MUSIC EXAMINATIONS.

The Universities of Adelaide and Melbourne in May held public examinations in the practice of music. The results are given below.

Pass List.

- Grades 1 and 2.—None.
- Grade 3.—Imelda Cummins, pianoforte (St. Joseph's Convent, Mitcham); Mary Cummins, pianoforte (St. Joseph's Convent, Mitcham); Tristram Harper, pianoforte (Miss A. Flaherty); Grace Hilda Heath, pianoforte (Miss A. Flaherty); Sarah Ann Jenkins, pianoforte (Mr. E. M. Bennett); Minnie Norsworthy, singing (Madam H. Kugelberg).
- Grade 4.—Honors—Ethel May Snell, pianoforte (Miss D. Ryan).
Pass.—Alfred James Gardner, pianoforte (Sisters Mercy, Angas-street); Eileen McGaun, pianoforte (Sisters Mercy, Angas-street); Nellie Olivear Gamblen McLachlan, pianoforte (Mr. E. M. Bennett); Vera Pethic, singing (Madam H. Kugelberg).
- Grade 5.—Honors—Helen Margaret Hughes, pianoforte (Miss E. A. Short).
Pass.—Dorothy Brady, pianoforte (Sisters Mercy, Angas-street); Nellie Elizabeth Drayson, pianoforte (Miss E. Day); Florence Muriel Evans, violin (Mrs. R. G. Alderman); Gertrude Fitzgerald, pianoforte (Mrs. E. M. Bennett); Alma May Flaherty, pianoforte (Miss A. Flaherty); Cecilia Gertrude Gillen, pianoforte (Mrs. J. B. Nolan); Mary Lander, pianoforte (Sisters Mercy, Angas-street); Mary Margaret Lee, pianoforte (Sisters Mercy, Angas-street); Jane O'Brien, pianoforte (St. Joseph's Convent, Mitcham); Frances O'Loghlen, pianoforte (Sisters Mercy, Angas-street); Lillian Welba Olsen, pianoforte (Miss A. Flaherty); Kathleen Castle Paltridge, pianoforte (Mrs. C. H. Reeves); Frances Audrey Poulton, pianoforte (Miss E. W. Short); Mai Elizabeth Puhlmann, pianoforte (Herr H. Kugelberg); Gladys Christina Smith, pianoforte (Mrs. C. H. Reeves); Ralph Shepherd Stacy, pianoforte (Miss A. G. Webb).