NEWS 16-6-27

CONSERVATORIUM CONCERTS

In quite different style was Sylvia Prothero, who sang Fairies's cast for the Princess, and made a graceful figure, with a sweet voice rather light in quality, but very successfully impersonating Meryl, her maid-of-honor. Ray Dipper made rather a weak King, both vocally and in effect, although the character was not a kingly one. As the Prince Donald Wildsmith had some quick changes, and sang the parts of the several suitors with robust distinctness. Charles Carter made an effective chamberlain, and Edna Lawrence looked well as the trumpeter.

Delightful Ballet

A delightful ballet was danced by Phyllis Leitch and her pupils, Peggy Leitch, Kiwi Wells, Verna Dougaide, and Margaret Marsden. The ballet was presented by one of the simulated suitors as a tribute to the Princess, another presenting a basket of singers, which included Linda Wyld, Jean Sinclair, H. B. Watson, and Leslie Coney, while a group of elegantly attired mannequins and bandbox girls, which accompanied the third, and posed in most approved style, included Evelyn Blades, Roma Blades, Daisy Davies, Mary Davies, Portia Pulleine, Requita Pulleine, Edna Gogan, and Helen Stratman. Gwen Priest, Marjorie Priest, and Olive Dyer made charming pages.

The music was most attractive. Miss Sylvia Whitington leading the orchestra. Mr. Clive Carey was the producer, with Messrs. Frank John on and Charles Carter as stage managers. The concert management was in the hands of Mr. Gus Cawthorne.

The performance will be repeated on Saturday evening, with a change of cast in the principal roles.

Facilities for School Children

The Hon. M. McIntosh (Minister of Education) has, on the application of a number of residents, approved a school being established on Pillana reserve, in the West Coast. Residents are prepared with the assistance of a loan or grant-in-aid to erect a building suitable for school purposes. School facilities will be provided for 19 children.

Miss D. M. Shackleford has been appointed to Myrla school, Miss G. L. Scott to Hilltown, and Miss D. C. C. Scott to Courela.

The Minister has also sanctioned the Director of the Elder Conservatorium at the University of Adelaide bringing under the notice of pupils in Adelaide and suburban schools the opportunity of attending the State Conservatorium. In the Elder Hall, as well as those by the South Australian Orchestra in the Exhibition Building or Town Hall. The concerts are regarded as being of great educational value and the constant fostering of a love for good music can go a long way to make the Minister considers, benefit boys and girls of an impressionable age.

NEWS 16-6-27

RESEARCH WORK

Ambitious Federal Scheme

Mr. J. E. West (member for East Sydney) has given notice that at the next session of the House of Representatives he will move that the Government set aside an area of 36 square miles of Federal Capital Territory for the purposes of research institute, station and farm, and other fields of scientific research, laboratories, field equipment, research scholarships and fellowships the income of the Government not exceeding £1,000,000 be utilised.

The motion further suggests "that an Australian research conference be held, also a triennial research congress, to which eminent men in biology, chemistry, and other fields of scientific research are invited; that the co-operation of various State Governments and universities be sought in perfecting the details of the Australian research institute; that the State Governments be invited to send their officers engaged in research work, also the medicine, mechanics, and laborers, deans and professors of the science faculties of the several universities, to a convention for the purpose of drawing up for submission to the Commonwealth Government a constitution, rules and regulations for the government of the institute."

Seventeen Trainees

The hospital holds a two-fold purpose. It acts as a teaching institute for the patients' department of Adelaide Hospital, and as a training ground for students of the medical school, the dental school of St. Adelaide University. Seventeen dentists are in training the year. Attached to the hospital is an honorary staff of 14 dental surgeons, whose attendance is so adjusted that the students are under the eye of a competent man.

"Abandon hope all ye who enter here" has no place in the spirit of the hospital. The wards believe one big family, and most of polished Queensland made favorable impressions. Some of the patients have a decidedly cheery aspect. Absence from work seems to be a gratifying departure from dental traditions.

The ground floor comprises administration offices, operating surgeries, preparation and waiting rooms, and the prosthetic section, which includes a demonstration, impressions, and fitting rooms. On the first floor are the surgeries, clear operating, library, lecture theatre, and quarters for students and nurses. Only third and fourth year students are allowed to operate on patients; the first and second years are being devoted to preparatory work. Dr. R. B. H. Morris (honorary dental surgeon to Hospitals and chairman of Adelaide Hospital Board) supervises the working staff (Mr. Gordon Ashby, M.B., is the resident superintendent), Mr. J. F. Clarke (senior honorary surgeon and demonstrator), Mr. A. W. Cox (dental surgeon), Mr. H. C. Lawrence (half-time dental surgeon), Mr. L. A. M. Beauchamp (senior mechanic), Mr. Meares, C. Wrightford and Turner (mechanics), Sister W. Priest, Sister L. Birder, and Nurse M. Green (nursing staff). In addition to the honorary staff of dental surgeons two honorary anaesthetists attend.

THE NEWS

ADELAIDE: FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1927

UNIVERSITY MEN IN BUSINESS

In past years young men were sent to the national universities with the idea of ultimately becoming politicians or of entering one of the so-called learned professions. Industry, trade, and commerce were looked down upon as occupations too plebeian for those who had attended institutions of advanced teaching.

That prejudice has now almost disappeared. The modern civic university is not restricted to a special community. It is also more practical in its teaching. It is inclined to attach less importance to Latin and Greek and more to the subjects underlying the special industries of its locality.

The products of these universities are to be found in most walks of life. This is particularly the case in America and Germany. It has been long recognised in those countries that progress lies in the correlation of scientific research with industrial development. It has been also proved that the university-trained man is better suited to effect that co-operation than those who delight in referring to themselves as "practical men of business."

Prof. Carter Goodrich (assistant professor of Economics at Michigan University) revealed part of the secret of the industrial success of the United States when he said that the younger generation of industrial magnates are graduates themselves and look for men of similar calibre to staff their businesses.

The success of America need not be envied, but the outstanding factors which have led to that success can be emulated. One of them is the training of our young men at universities and their subsequent employment in all branches of industry and agriculture.

Prof. Brailsford Robertson was instrumental in the formation of an employment bureau or appointment board at the Adelaide University. It was established in the interests of students and to benefit the industries of the State. Yet the considered dictum of Prof. Robertson is that few manufacturers in Australia avail themselves of the universities and the men who are trained there.

The prosperity of the country must more and more depend on the employment of men with trained brains—men who can marshal facts and are not too conservative to keep abreast of the times; men with quickened imaginations to see ahead.

South Australia must recognise this and make fuller use of its university and the men who give up so many years of their lives better to fit themselves for this age when brain counts far more than brawn.

DENTAL HOSPITAL

Relieving Grief and Pain

POPULAR INSTITUTION

"For there was never yet philosopher
That could endure the toothache patiently."—Shakespeare.

Nor can anyone else. Although a healthy mouth is a necessity, a large proportion of the population finds dentists' bills an expensive luxury. So suffering South Australia would be obliged to "grin and bear it" were it not for the Dental Hospital, which rears its imposing dimensions on Frome road.

Here are treated the people who cannot pay the ordinary fees for dental treatment. They are expected to pay in proportion to their means, but no charge is exacted from persons in straitened circumstances.

Among the patients are inmates of the Old Reformatory, Childhood's Home, Mental Hospital, Enfield Receiving Home, Adelaide Gaol, and Yatala Labour Prison. Children constitute approximately a third of the total number. All branches of dental work are done in the hospital, but fillings feed alternate.

Crowded waiting rooms are thronged daily. Depressed little groups, sitting together for mutual consolation, and grim silence prevails. Patients fully appreciate the valuable work done in the hospital, but no amount of appreciation will make a mere social approach to the dental chair with alacrity. All ages are represented, from the infant of 18 months to the veteran of 90 years.

There is no dearth of patients. Hospital authorities are more inclined to restrictions for treatment than they can cope with. So great was the pressure early this year that no fresh cases could be taken from the beginning of February until the middle of March. The number of patients treated depends on the size of the staff.

In the five years from 1921 to 1926 the number of patients rose from 601 to 5,548, and the number of sittings from 1,684 to 16,753. And still they come. Statistics for the current year will probably closely approximate those of 1926.

Efficiency and equipment maintain a formidably high standard. Every equipment is appointed on modern lines, and the general anaesthetic room is a model of its kind so far as South Australia is concerned. The whole place is a symphony in gleaming white and silver, and is a sermonless sanitarium without equivalency of every household. Probably the most impressive feature to the layman is the elaborately equipped surgery, into which 48 chairs can be fit in operation. This lavishly appointed dental hospital means from a small beginning. Prior to 1921 it was housed in temporary establishments, equipped on a modest scale. In that year the Adelaide Hospital Board took over a large building in the Parklands on Grounds, which had formerly housed the military dental department.

Largely through the efforts of Sir Joseph Verco, £12,000 of surplus British Red Cross funds was allocated to South Australia to found a dental hospital, which was further subsidised by the Government of the day to the extent of £10,000. The present building was opened in July, 1923.

REG 18-6-27

PACIFIC RESEARCH.

Professor Henderson's Work.

Professor G. C. Henderson, M.A., formerly Professor of History at the University of Adelaide, returned for a short stay in the city on Friday. He is now engaged in collecting documents and general research work among the Pacific islands.

When seen by a representative of The Register on Friday, the Professor was much amused at a statement which had appeared in a section of the press that he intended to write a history of the Pacific. As he explained, it would be an immense task, merely to write the history of one or two islands. It is a few years, perhaps, he might write a history of one of them. He had already visited Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands, and in July would leave for the New Hebrides. A lot of documents from the islands, largely in the form of petitions, were already in the hands of the authorities. However, there were a great number of very important local documents to be seen on the islands. The history of the various missions was important. The missionaries had been very active, and had gone to the islands early in the days of cannibalism; indeed, many had gone "into the pot." They had all, however had very interesting experiences.

Ownership Problem.

The missionaries were now in a most interesting position. They had great power over the natives, and held their trust. When they arrived at an island the chief of the island would stretch out his hand, saying it vaguely and say "You may have that much." The problem was just who the "that much" meant. Great difficulty had been experienced in settling land claims and in fixing boundaries. The tribunal which had enquired into the question had made no headway. There had been much trouble, too, over the native labour. The missionaries opposed recruiting natives for labour purposes. On the other side, however, the planter found it impossible to get on without hand labour.

British Behindhand.

In some places, the French planters managed to get their labour by bringing men from other places. The British settlers had been unable to do this, and so were not holding their own. Australia, as a mandatory, had a responsibility in doing what it could to keep out the imported labour in pursuance of its white Australia policy. A commission would soon sit and endeavour to settle many questions, including those concerning the relations between the missionaries, traders, planters, and the mixed tribunal. The documents for which he was searching would be of great value in many ways, and would be brought to the Mitchell Library in Sydney.