

EXAMINERS REVEAL HOWLERS IN CANDIDATES' PAPERS

UNIVERSITY WOMEN STUDENTS' UNION.

Slang in English Essays and Flowery Language Condemned

PRESCRIBED BOOKS NOT STUDIED

THE reports of the examiners on the recent University public examinations which have been issued in the University Manual, contain many amusing howlers by candidates.

The examiners in English are by no means satisfied with the results of the instruction given to the students, and make many recommendations to teachers as the result of their analyses of the papers.

IN Intermediate English they say that very few candidates had a good grasp of both the letter and spirit of the prescribed books, and about a hundred of the students should never have been entered for the examination.

Perhaps the worst howler in this section was the effort of about 15 of the candidates to explain the lines:—

Phoebus' gins arise
His steeds to water at those springs
On chaliced flowers that lies.
These students took the lines (which had to be learnt by heart) to refer to "the gins or aboriginal servants of Phoebus!"

The use of slang in the essays is mentioned by the examiners, who quote the following glaring example from one paper:—"My pal did not get off scot free, either. As he put it afterwards, he 'collared such a bang on the jaw with the butt of the oar that he did not know whether he was coming or going.'"

Flowery Language Condemned

"Under the head, 'Describe a journey you have made,' the best and the worst essays were written. The decking of poor thought in ostentatious garb is condemned. One candidate wrote:—"We gratefully inhale the luscious perfumes which are gently wafted down on little breezes from the clusters of wildflowers which are all around."

Others wrote rubbish about babbling brooks and warbling birds with a profusion of outworn and unconvincing conceits. Many candidates said that as the Melbourne train ascended the hills they could hear the twittering of the birds; and one was bold enough to say he could see the breaking of the spray on the silver beach six miles off. "Surely," the examiners remark, "this is not spontaneity, but rather the saying of conventional things which the child thinks perhaps should be said. Teachers should discourage this practice."

Limitation of Swimming

Very few good essays on Summer Pastimes were written. While some candidates drew on their own experiences with satisfactory results, for the most part the essays consisted of vague and unconvincing general statements. An example is:—Swimming is a summer pastime, and is the only pastime which cools you on a hot day; but the reason why it is not the chief summer pastime I think is that it can only be played where there is water.

Jargon of Foreign Films

The examiners in section B of intermediate English said they could probably trace the baneful influence of the jargon of foreign films in the use of slang words which conveyed nothing or even the opposite of what was intended. It was pleasing to note that the word woman was no longer shunned as if it were a term of depreciation.

In Leaving Honours English a note of satisfaction is struck. The examiners said the papers were undoubtedly the best received for some time past. The most pleasing feature of many was the evidence of wide reading they contained.

Blunders in Geography

Commenting on the Leaving Geography the examiner said, "Surely teachers can help to stop the growth of that foolish state of mind which confuses the acts of business men with the acts of the country as a whole."

One candidate explained that chinchilla fur was the means employed by the wives of millionaires to make other women jealous.

Another said England owned nearly all the world's rubber, and the United States was very sore about it.



NEW BUILDING OPENED.

Sir Josiah and Lady Symon photographed at the entrance to the Lady Symon building, which was opened at the Adelaide University on Monday by Sir Josiah. The new building, which will be used by the University Women Students' Union, is the gift of Sir Josiah.

UNIVERSITY WOMEN STUDENTS

NEW BUILDING OPENED.

GIFT BY SIR JOSIAH SYMON.

The Lady Symon building, the gift of Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., for the use of the University Women Students' Union, was opened by Sir Josiah at the Adelaide University on Monday afternoon. The ceremony took place in the hall of the newly-erected building, the chair being occupied by the Chancellor (Sir George Murray). Among those present, in addition to Sir Josiah and Lady Symon, were the Vice-Chancellor (Sir William Mitchell), the Warden of the Senate (Mr. Justice Angus Parsons), Sir Langdon Bonython, Professor R. W. Chapman, Professor J. McKellar Stewart, Dr. F. S. Hone, Dr. Helen M. Mayo, Messrs. W. J. Isbister, K.C., W. R. Bayly, and A. G. Price, and members of the committee of the University Women Students' Union.

The Chancellor said the gathering was one of the most interesting they had had in connection with the University. The building would form the women's portion of the University. Sir Josiah had first communicated his desire to provide the cost of the building in 1926. He wanted it to be a common meeting ground and a social, as well as an academic centre for the women students. It was also intended to mark Sir Josiah's happy personal association with the early work of the University, as a member of the council and its committees for eight years more than 30 years ago. Sir Josiah's generous offer had been gratefully accepted by the council, and the foundation-stone was laid by him about 18 months ago. All must be conscious of the tremendous advance that had been made in the University of Adelaide. Building expansion had become irresistible, and had taken place in the direction of the river—the only space available. Thanks to the Government the University boundaries had now reached as far as Victoria Drive, and they had a new and perhaps more imposing front than that facing North-terrace. Other new buildings proposed would be of the Georgian style of architecture of which there were few examples in South Australia. The general effect, when the building scheme was completed, would be most impressive, and would add an air of distinction and beauty to that part of the city. The library of the Lady Symon building had been adorned by Sir Josiah with some charming pieces of statuary on his own house. One could hardly

imagine a place more calculated to inspire the women who had the privilege of using it. Sir Josiah had been an outstanding figure in the community for many years. At the bar and in politics he stood in the forefront. He would always be remembered for his love for home, art and books, for his devotion to his wife and his faith in the good influence which would flow from the higher education of women. As a suit-winner, Sir Josiah stood supreme, but he won his best suit when he won the hand of Lady Symon. (Applause.)

Sir Josiah said he was proud to open the building on behalf of his wife and himself. He took pleasure in introducing the Women Students' Union, which was a daughter of the University, to the building which was to be their academic home for the future. The building had an ideal site, although he would like to see more rows of trees on the western side—elms for choice. (Laughter and applause). That would probably solve the intricate problem which had been puzzling the minds of their municipal governors and others for a long time. Towards the west they would have the cloisters, which were to be a permanent and touching memorial to the students who had died that others might be free. He believed the building had been designed and arranged with great ability, understanding, and good taste by the architect (Mr. Laybourne-Smith), and had been carried out by the contractor in an admirable manner. It impressed the mind with a sense of perfection and chasteness. He was sorry he was in the sunset of life and of the other sex, otherwise he would have liked to be admitted to the ranks of the Women Students' Union. Its success would depend largely upon the management of it and the spirit of camaraderie prevailing among the members. (Applause.)

The president of the Women's Union (Miss Menz) expressed the appreciation of the members of the magnificent gift of Sir Josiah and Lady Symon. The members could hardly believe that their dream had come true. Sir Josiah understood the purpose of the union, and the true influence of unity and co-operation in University life. She briefly referred to the advance which had been made by the Women Students' Union and said members always felt grateful to Dr. Helen Mayo for her support. The union was the only way in which the women gained something of that corporate spirit which was so hard to cultivate in a non-residential institution. The secretary of the Women's Union (Miss Morris) said the new home of the union seemed too delightful to be true. The only way the women students could show their appreciation was by proving themselves to be worthy recipients of the building. She assured the donor

NEWS 25-3-29

REG. 29-3-29

LADY SYMON BUILDING

ST. MARK'S COLLEGE AWARDS

Opening This Afternoon

RESIDENTIAL BURSARY TO MR. B. G. MAEGRAITH

GIFT OF SIR JOSIAH

Other Scholarships

Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., will perform the opening ceremony this afternoon at 4 o'clock of the Lady Symon Building in the grounds of the University of Adelaide, North terrace.

THE Council of St. Mark's College has awarded a residential bursary to Mr. B. G. Maegraith.

Mr. Maegraith had a distinguished career in work and games at St. Peter's College, and took a high place in the leaving honours examination. At the University he obtained first place and credit in the first and second medical examinations, and was awarded the Elder Prize and the Davies Thomas Scholarship. He has also been editor of the University Magazine, and has represented the University in baseball.

Mr. E. W. Gray will hold the Poole Prize for the second year. Mr. Gray gained first credit in the leaving honours of 1927, and in 1928 at St. Mark's College secured first place and credit in four University subjects and third place and credit in a fifth, together with the Barr Smith, Andrew Scott, and Stow Prizes. He is now reading honours classics.

Mr. J. C. Newland, the winner of the John Creswell Scholarship awarded by the South Australian Cricket Association, is also in residence. Mr. Newland obtained the intermediate and leaving certificates at St. Peter's College, and was a leading member of the school football and cricket teams, representing the school in the Ceylon cricket tour.

The new building, which has a commanding view of the Mount Lofty Ranges, can be reached by Victoria Drive. The new structure is known as the Lady Symon Building. It is the gift of Sir Josiah for the Women's Union, which is part of the proposed university union for men and women.

Sir Josiah wished to mark in this way his personal association with the early work of the University as a member of its council and active committees.

Of the gift of £10,000 by Sir Josiah an amount of £500 was reserved for equipping with books the library of the women students which will be housed in the new building.

Miss A. Menz (president of the Women's Union) will reply on behalf of that organisation and Miss H. Morris on behalf of present-day students.