

Adv. 21-10-30

ELDER CONSERVATORIUM

FINE STUDENT CONCERT

By ALEX BURNARD

Last night, in the Elder Hall, some advanced students of the Conservatorium gave, broadly speaking, an excellent account of themselves. The programme was well diversified, but was too long, I thought, by at least three numbers. Pride of place must undoubtedly go to Jean Barbour, Hartley Williams and Clifford Roennfeldt for their inspired playing of Arensky's D Minor Trio (1st movement). The violinist's artistry and tone-control are things to remember with gratitude, and the difficult piano part was in unerring hands. One would like to hear the three players in recital work, such is the sympathy displayed between them. And to Jean Finlay our thanks are due for a group of pianoforte works such as rarely falls our way. She showed glorious restraint in "The White Peacock," of Charles T. Griffes (whose premature death in 1920 was such a loss to American music). Two well-contested pieces from the pen of E. J. Moeran, "The Lake Island" and "At a Horse Fair," completed a bracket. In the former one might easily catch the lazy, throaty gurgle of the water; and the jolly last number showed the Irish in the composer's make-up asserting itself most happily.

Theodora Ekers opened the programme with a poetically-conceived first movement of Grieg's A Minor Concerto. There were occasional lapses in cleanness in the scherzo subject and octave passages, but the cadenza and more romantic portions were beautifully done. Two Schumann numbers, "Warum" and "Aufschwung," formed Gweneth Thompson's bracket. In the former we heard some lovely tone-production, the two "voices" ideally balanced and merged; but "Upsoaring" was hardly as convincing: here, although the work was quite clean, requisite tone was definitely sacrificed to speed.

Saint-Saens's piano duo, a polonaise op. 77, showed the perfect ensemble of Joan Bensley and Lucy Daenke. It was a highly pianistic thing, and they were quite equal to the pyrotechnics I liked them better in their quieter moments—at odd times the tone exceeded robustness, and approached the harsh

Little Pauline Hyde showed sound bowing, and maintained a good tone in her violin items, Mozart's Minuet in D, and "The Swan" (Saint-Saens). Very little rubato is there as yet, but that will come, and she has a sure foundation on which to build. Purcell's "Golden Sonata" was well essayed by Phyllis Chappel and Julia Cockburn. There are five movements, alternately fast and slow. The long-drawn sighs of both slow movements showed great tenderness of phrasing. The three allegros, although most cleanly delivered, might have benefited by more tone variety. Clifford Roennfeldt, apart from one or two ineffectualities of intonation, extracted a great deal of beauty from his cello solo, Cesar Cui's "Cantabile."

Kathleen Ashton's reading of Puccini's "One Fine Day," was, despite the thinness of her tone, delightful. Her appoggiatura on the word "long" was such as only a musician could have accomplished. Unswerving intonation and a good tone characterised Blanche Bell's singing of a delightful setting of "Oh, Dear! What Can the Matter Be?" She lived it, too. Her other song was from Donizetti's "Daughter of the Regiment." Stanford's wonderfully expressive "Requiescat" was certainly finely felt by Mrs. Dulcie Hocking, but her quality, except in the upper register, is harsh. Robert Leslie started in uninspired fashion in his song "The Valley," of Gounod, but warmed to his work as he went on, when his tone likewise improved. Schubert's "Erl King" was gloriously sung by Muriel Day. She showed admirable powers of characterisation in her portrayal of the three distinct voices, and all the tense drama of the song was there.

Vida Buring, Lois Thomson, and Mrs. Marie Clarke showed excellent ensemble, and blended well in three Brahms trios for female voices. It was a pity that a definite flattening took place more than once. Possibly the accompanist's over-restrained tone was partly responsible for this. I was unfortunately unable to stay for the first movement of the Mendelssohn G Minor Concerto, played by Winifred Fisher. Accompaniments were in the able hands of Alice Meegan, Jean Barbour, Gweneth Thompson, Miriam Hyde, and Jean Finlay.

Adv. 21-10-30

RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

Entries closed on Monday for the South Australian Rhodes scholarship. It is not likely that the scholar will be selected until December. The scholarship is valued at £400 a year, and is tenable at the University of Oxford normally for three years. Candidates are selected on four groups of qualities, namely:—1. Literary and scholastic attainments. 2. Qualities of manhood, devotion to duty, and fellowship. 3. Exhibition of moral force and instincts of leadership. 4. Physical vigor. The first two were considered by the founder, Mr. Cecil Rhodes, to be the most important. The selection committee consists of his Excellency the Governor (Sir Alexander Hore-Ruthven), the Chancellor of the University (Sir George Murray), Professor Chapman, Professor Hancock, Messrs. C. T. Madigan, R. J. Rudall, J. R. Fowler, and H. Thomson.

GOOD PERFORMANCES BY STUDENTS

Conservatorium Concert Reaches High Level

MOST of the students of the Elder Conservatorium reached a high level of artistry in their performances in the concert at the Elder Hall last night.

Miss Theo Ekers opened the concert with a creditable rendering of the Grieg Concerto (first movement), with Mr. Geo. Pearce at the second piano.

Puccini's One Fine Day received sympathetic treatment from Miss Kathleen Ashton, a singer with an even, well-controlled voice, but little dramatic power as yet.

Miss Gweneth Thompson gave an artistic interpretation of Schumann's Warum and Aufschwung, and Miss Blanche Bell displayed an attractive voice and perfect articulation in Oh, Dear! What Can the Matter Be? (XVIII. Cent.) and None Can Gain Say It (Donizetti).

Two violin soli, Minuet in D (Mozart) and Le Cygne (Saint-Saens) were contributed by Miss Pauline Hyde, a promising young player, and Miss Jean Finlay's finished pianism was shown to great advantage in a welcome group of new works—The White Peacock (rather a peevish bird) by Charles Griffes, and two interesting tone-pictures by E. J. Moeran.

Stanford's Requiescat, sung by Mrs. Dulcie Hocking, was followed by a well-balanced rendering of the first movement of the Arensky Trio (Miss Jean Barbour, Messrs. Hartley Williams and Roennfeldt). After an interpretation of Gounod's The Valley by Mr. R. Leslie, Misses Joan Bensley and Lucy Daenke wakened us up with a vigorous attack on the Saint-Saens Polonaise (Op. 27).

ERL KING THRILLS

Purcell's Golden Sonata for Two Violins, soundly played by Misses Phyllis Chappel and Julie Cockburn, was followed by the dramatic thrill of the evening—Schubert's Erl King, sung by Miss Muriel Day. A thoughtful performance of Cui's Cantabile by Mr. Roennfeldt, three Brahms trios for female voices (Misses Buring and Thomson, and Mrs. Clark), and a bright rendering of Mendelssohn's melodious Concerto in G Minor (first movement) by Miss Winifred Fisher with Mr. William Silver at the second piano, brought the evening to a close.

The concert was about half an hour too long, and the last few performers found the audience getting restive. Misses Meegan, Barbour, Thompson, Hyde, and Finlay shared the pianoforte accompaniment.

SIR CHARLES MARTIN

Will Arrive in March

Sir Charles Martin (director of the Bacteriological Institute, London), who has been appointed to succeed the late Prof. T. Braithford Robertson as chief of the animal nutrition division of the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research and professor of biochemistry at the University of Adelaide, will arrive in Adelaide during the first week in March.

Mr. H. R. Marston (acting chief of the animal nutrition division) stated this morning that he had received advice that Sir Charles would leave England on January 2 and would disembark at Cape Town. From there he would go to Onderstepoort, where the South African research activities are centred. He would leave Cape Town on the Ceramic on February 11.

Mr. Justice Napier is 48 years old today. He graduated in law at the Adelaide University in 1902; became a King's Counsel in 1922, and rose to the Bench in February, 1924.

Adv. 22-10-30

TAXATION DEBATE

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APPROPRIATION BILL

SUPPORTED BY SIR DAVID GORDON

Confidence in Advisory Committee

Inter alia

Suggestions for Economics

Mr. Mills said he thought the Treasurer should reduce his estimates of revenue by about a million pounds. This would mean that a corresponding reduction in expenditure would have to be made if the Budget were to be balanced. He suggested that the office of Agent-General and the Industrial Court should be abolished, and that the grants to education, agriculture, and the University should be further reduced. He agreed with the proposal to reduce salaries of members.

The debate was adjourned until today.

News 16-10-30

CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

Results of the trip by a party of scientists to Central Australia in August will be outlined at a meeting to be held at the University refectory on Saturday night. Members of the expedition, the council of the University, professors, and lecturing staff will be present. Photographs, lantern slides, and cinema films will be shown.

The party investigated the habits and other features of the life of aborigines in the MacDonnell Downs area.

Reg. 23-10-30

BILL TO ALTER DENTAL BOARD

Five Members To Be Registered Dentists

A BILL to reconstitute the Dental Board so that all of its five members will be registered dentists, was introduced to the Legislative Council yesterday by Mr. Tassie (Lib.).

At present the Board comprises two registered dentists, two representatives of the British Medical Association, and a lay chairman appointed by the Governor.

The chairman and the representatives of the B.M.A., Mr. Tassie said, were agreeable to the alteration.

"I even look forward to the time when the extra status given to the Dental Board and the profession generally, will enable the Board, with advantage to the Government and the profession, to take control of the Dental College," said Mr. Tassie.

The benefits of the college, he said, were at present being availed of by many people who were well able to go to a private dentist. Another object of his Bill was to enable operative assistants of seven years' experience to register as such, after a practical examination. Registered dentists would be required to employ only registered men as operative assistants after those men had passed their examination.

The debate was adjourned until today.

Dental Board Opposes Amendment

The Dental Board has written to the Government opposing the proposed amendment to the Dental Act relating to the registration of operative assistants. The letter gives the views of the University, of the South Australian branch of the British Medical Association, of registered dentists, and of the Board.

It is claimed that the proposed legislation would lower the standard of dental education. A grave injustice would be done to dentists, students, and the public if dental standards were lowered.

On behalf of the Operative Dental Assistants' Association, Mr. F. S. Alford said last night that there were only about 15 operatives practising dentistry. Although employed by registered dentists they had their own surgeries, and some managed their employers' practices at times.

Operatives, when registered, could not treat more patients than they were now treating. Their registration would lift the status of dentistry, because in the future the University and the Dental Hospital would be the only training grounds for recruits for the profession.

News 22-10-30

DENTAL BOARD

Altered Constitution

PROPOSALS IN NEW BILL

Alteration of the constitution of the Dental Board is proposed in the Dentists Bill, the second reading of which was moved in the Legislative Council this afternoon by the Hon. H. Tassie.

Mr. Tassie said that there were two main objects in the measure. One was the alteration of the constitution of the board, which at present consisted of two representatives of the British Medical Association, two dentists, and a chairman appointed by the Governor. He proposed the appointment of five registered dentists elected by their fellow-members.

In addition to the Dental Board, there was a Dental Association to which fees were paid. With the altered constitution of the board there would be no necessity for a separate association because the dentists themselves would control the board.

EXTRA STATUS

"I even look forward to the time when the extra status given to the Dental Board and the profession may enable the board with advantage to the Government and the profession to control the Dental College," said Mr. Tassie.

The other object, he continued, was to give further opportunity to register after a practical examination to operative dental assistants who for at least seven years had obtained their main means of livelihood in the practice of dentistry as operative assistants. After the expiry of the period in which those assistants were entitled to sit for examination registered dentists would be allowed to employ only registered men as operative assistants.

"DISTINCT ADVANTAGE"

"It is contended," said Mr. Tassie, "that the Bill will operate harshly against dental students who are taking the full prescribed course for their diplomas. But I maintain that the cutting out in future of the employment of unregistered assistants will be a distinct advantage to those people, and afford them similar opportunities to gain practical experience with registered dentists as is afforded in hospitals to medical students who have just taken their degrees."

"The Bill if passed will bring the legislation into conformity with that in operation in nearly all the other States and in Great Britain. The practical examination provided for is exactly the same as is prescribed for students who take the full course in dentistry."

"RETROGRADE STEP"

Board Opposes Amendment

Legislation proposed for the registration, subject to the passing of a modified examination, of certain operative dental assistants, is regarded as undesirable and a retrograde step by the Dental Board of South Australia, University of Adelaide, South Australian branch of British Medical Association, South Australian branch of Registered Dental Association, and registered dentists.

In the following statement, these organisations expressed their attitude:—"We are convinced that members of the Operative Dental Assistants' Association do not suffer any real disabilities at present. In the desire of the Government to do what is considered justice to a small body of individuals, a grave injustice is done to a much larger section of the community."

"Continued and successful efforts of the administrative and educational authorities to raise the standard of the profession and the increasing value of the services of members to the public seem to deserve more consideration."

Educational Standards

"Anything that tends to lower the general standard of dental education, which the registration of operatives must cause, is nothing short of a tragedy for the public, which is entitled to service from fully and properly qualified practitioners."

"Entry to the profession should be by recognised channels only, and a grave injustice would be done to dentists, students, the public, and others if educational standards are lowered or permit those individuals to enter the profession."

"It seems an anomaly that the Government should equip and maintain the Dental Hospital and subsidise the University for the training of students, when the way will be opened for admission to the profession of students who have not undergone this or similar preparation."

Avenues of Entry

"Regular avenues of entry to the profession are open to all. In addition to the degree course at the university there is a course provided in the regulations under the 1904 Act. This course is not as comprehensive as the former, and does not necessitate attendance at the Dental Hospital. Consequently an operative assistant could undertake the course and still carry on his means of livelihood."

"No rights that members of the Operative Dental Assistants' Association have acquired or any fancied disabilities they may suffer justify them in asking, or Parliament granting the right to present themselves for an examination which, according to the present standard of dental education, is nothing short of farcical. It should be borne in mind that it gives dental assistants a dangerous precedent for similar applications in the future."