

They know the risk they run, and think the fair guerdon worth it all. But it is right to bear in mind that there are many young men who would be physically incapable to bear the mental wear and tear which this burning of the candle at both ends entails. Could not something be done for them? Might they not be allowed to take up one or two subjects a year and be given a certificate of proficiency if they passed an examination? The Arts course might, indeed, be spread over a greater number of years, and certificates of having passed in the various subjects might entitle the holders to degrees. Even if they never graduated the certificates which they had gained would be useful in gaining them promotion.

This is looking at things from a business point of view, but even for those who have no such object in view in pursuing their studies, the systematic work and careful supervision would be productive of much intellectual benefit. We should be glad to see some such scheme adopted, because it would be eminently suited to the requirements of the colony, and would give higher education an impetus which it sorely needs. We trust the University will be able to begin lectures at once. Just now the matter has been thoroughly ventilated, and a vigorous effort should be made to keep public interest alive. We believe there are indeed some young men who are anxious to begin work forthwith, and if only two or three of the classes can be arranged for just at present there is no reason why a beginning should not be made. With such a noble beginning as Sir Thomas Elder's gift the University ought to regard the scheme as being assured of success. If they act promptly in this spirit we do not doubt that the rest of the funds will be forthcoming.

Register March 9th 1885.

UNIVERSITY EVENING CLASSES.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—In to-day's issue your editorial comments on the meeting held the other evening conclude as follows:—"The Vice-Chancellor considers that £5,000 will be enough to begin with, and if that be so there can be little difficulty in the way. It will not be long before this sum is subscribed in a colony like ours, where so much interest is taken in educational matters, and in which so many noble gifts have been made for the establishment and endowment of Chairs. In the meantime it is desirable a beginning should be made at once. Cannot two or three of the classes be started without delay? We fear if the matter is held over too long the present enthusiasm may cool, and it will not be an easy matter to revive it." Whilst I cannot refrain from remarking how completely these comments are verified and endorsed by Sir Thomas Elder's prompt and munificent donation, and by his advice to "strike while the iron is hot," I trust you will permit me to emphasize more particularly the importance of starting the evening classes at once. The meeting in Stow Lecture Hall, satisfactory as it was in all other respects, was extremely disappointing to those who cherished the hope that these classes would be available during this year's session. The Vice-Chancellor of the University stated that next year a beginning might be made by establishing ten courses of lectures, but apparently it did not occur to him nor to any of the other speakers that sufficient funds might be raised to set two or three of the classes agoing at once. It may be that even now the requisite £5,000 will be forthcoming to start the ten courses this year—and certainly there are already good grounds for the expectation—but should it happen that the full amount is not subscribed in time, why not go on immediately with as many classes as the funds subscribed will support? Now that the movement has reached a phase so promising I venture to think that the University authorities would be justified in making immediate arrangements to have at least two classes started this session—say one for Mathematics and one for Political Economy, these being the subjects which, so far as I can learn, are in most general favour amongst the intending students. I feel convinced that numerically and otherwise the success of these classes would be such as to ensure the subscription of any additional sum required to carry out the whole scheme.

I am, Sir, &c.,

P. Q.

Advertiser March 20/85

The March matriculation examination in connection with the Adelaide University terminated on Wednesday last, the number of candidates being twenty-six, including two ladies, as against twenty-nine who competed last March. The results of the late examination will be published next week. The University council are considering a proposition of the education committee to so far comply with the request of the Literary Societies' Union as to at once open four evening classes at which outside students may attend. The subjects will be geography (elementary and advanced), geology, and mathematics, for the first and last of which teachers have been secured. The offer of Professor Tate to teach geology is being considered.

Register March 17/85

PROFESSOR IVES'S LECTURES ON MUSIC.—

The curriculum for the degree of Bachelor of Music at the Adelaide University is published in another column, and the Registrar announces that Professor Ives will begin his course of lectures on Tuesday, March 24. This will embrace harmony, counterpoint, double counterpoint, form in composition, instrumentation, general composition, and acoustics. Students will be required to complete their studies for three years before obtaining their degrees. The University of Adelaide, in common with the University of Edinburgh, now enjoys the proud pre-eminence of being able to give instruction and confer degrees in the sublime art—a distinction to which no other University in the British Empire can lay claim.

EVENING CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY.—

The Education Committee of the Council of the University have decided to recommend to the Council agreement with the request of the Literary Societies' Union to start evening classes for the benefit of outside students. Those first started recommended will be for the teaching of Latin (elementary and advanced), geology, and mathematics. The services of teachers of the first and the last subjects are being advertised for. Professor Tate has offered to conduct the lessons in geology.

UNIVERSITY EVENING LECTURES. — Four courses of evening lectures have been determined upon by the Council of the University, the subjects chosen being elementary Latin, advanced Latin, geography, and mathematics. These branches of study are not, of course, the most popular, and probably the numbers of the students attending the classes will not be so large as in the case of other courses to be added to the curriculum later on. But they are the subjects most likely to be useful to those students who are desirous of pushing on towards the attainment of an Arts degree. Some of the most advanced of the teachers both in State and in private schools are anxious to attain to University distinction, and the evening classes now to be started will give them the opportunity for which they have long looked. The calendar announced that lectures would begin on the 17th of this month, but by an advertisement which has been published it appears that a postponement for a week has been decided upon. In the meantime we hope that the very worthy object for which the evening lectures are being started will not be lost sight of by those who have the funds to contribute to establishing the curriculum on a good basis. To assist earnest scholars whose pecuniary means are not commensurate with their desire for knowledge has always been one of the chief opportunities for distinction which wealth brings. Properly supported the evening lectures might become as powerful an agent for raising the educational standard of the colony as the other machinery of the University, for in this work-a-day colony the students who have only their evenings to spare are more numerous than those who can devote their whole days to study. Those who go in for complete degrees in this way must make up their minds to "scorn delights and live laborious days," for the course of study is a heavy strain upon a man in addition to the ordinary work of life. But there are very many young people who should make it a point to study for one or two certificates in separate subjects. These are in their way as good evidences of honest study as a degree itself, and the very passing of an examination in a single subject gives an object to study and a zest to the possession of knowledge. The Council should appeal to the public for fresh assistance. As Sir Thomas Elder says, there is nothing like "striking while the iron is hot."