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examinations, and often failed as the result of their peculiar constitutional build. He emphasized the need for each pupil setting up for himself an aim in life, and of consistently keeping that aim in view. (Applause.) He asked the parents to assist the master by reposing confidence in him, and impressed on all the need for having faith in the Great Creator.

A. LINDSAY, the dux of the school, on behalf of the scholars, then presented the Head Master, the Rev. J. C. Haynes, with a solid silver butter-dish as a token of their esteem and respect. Subsequently the like pleasing ceremony took place, when Mr. F. Sewell, the second master, who is leaving the school, was also presented with a testimonial by the boys as some token of their appreciation of his efforts in their behalf.

The singing of the National Anthem terminated the proceedings.

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UNIVERSITY SHAKSPEARE SOCIETY.

The final meeting of the fourteenth session of this Society was held in the library of the University on Thursday evening, and despite the excessive heat the holding capacity of the room was crowded. A good programme of musical and dramatic items was arranged, and the audience, which comprised members and their invited friends, grew enthusiastic at times at the display of histrionic talent which had been lying dormant in the Society. Mr. H. Barrett had charge of the drama for the evening, and credit is due to him for the way in which he had schooled the performers. The scenes selected were two, three, and five from the third act in "Romeo and Juliet," with Mr. A. White and Miss Kelly in the title-rôles, while the Friar Laurence was given by Mr. R. C. Pitcher and the nurse by Mrs. Ives. The performance was very creditable, Miss Kelly and Mr. Pitcher showing to the best advantage. The cast for the scenes one and five of Act III. from "Hamlet" was as follows:—Hamlet, Mr. R. C. Pitcher; Claudius, Mr. H. Barrett; Laertes, Mr. A. White; Horatio, Mr. H. L. Kekwick; Gertrude, Mrs. Ives; and Ophelia, Miss Howe. The music between the scenes was entrusted to Miss Helfers. Miss Howe's Ophelia was exceptionally good, while the others sustained their parts well. Mr. Pitcher again gave evidence of natural gifts for stage-work. The musical items were good, Miss Campbell, Mus. Bac., opening with Chopin's "Nocturne No. 11," while Miss Corvan, the Elder scholar, also chose a writing by Chopin for her selection. Both ladies were well received, as also was Miss Ethel Hack in her two songs "The willow song" and "The song of the river." Mr. R. Troughton sang "Montrose's love song" and "The song of the Hybrias, the Cretan," acceptably, while Mr. H. T. Prince scored in his two songs "Plymouth Sound" and "The skippers of St. Ives." The accompaniments were played by Miss Guli Hack, A.R.C.M., Miss Hilfers, and Mrs. Troughton. The programme was carried out under the direction of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. H. Lock.

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AUSTRALASIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

In the absence of Professors Rennie and Bragg, the Honorary Local Secretaries, any person wishing to subscribe to the above Association, or requiring information as to facilities for reaching Sydney in time for the Meeting to be held 6th January proximo, are requested to apply to

Mr. FREDERICK WRIGHT,

Hon. Local Treasurer,

Exchange Buildings, Pirie-street.

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THE STATE SCHOOLS.

STURT AND GROTE STREETS.

The Adelaide School Board of Advice paid their annual visit to the Sturt-street and Grote-street public schools on Friday morning. The members were Messrs. J. L. Bonython, Chairman, C. Bastard, E. A. H. Madge, C. Brann, and W. H. Carpenter, and they were accompanied by the Minister of Education, Hon. Dr. Cockburn; the Treasurer, Hon. F. W. Holder; Mr. E. L. Batchelor, M.P., and Mr. King O'Malley, M.P. They first drew up at Sturt-street, where the Head Master, Mr. M. Maughan, and a guard of honour received them. Mechanical work was the feature of this school, the modelling and fretwork operations of the boys being watched with interest. Mr. Maughan put the whole school through what is known as fire drill. In response to several sharp rings of the bell the children trooped out from all directions, and notwithstanding the hurried movements perfect order was maintained. The school was cleared in two minutes. Mr. Maughan instituted this drill after his experience on the occasion of the earthquake, and its value in case of alarm is undoubted. The round of the school having been made, the elder scholars were assembled in one of the large rooms, and rendered several songs.

Mr. BONYTHON said he was glad to know that the work of the past year had been of a satisfactory nature. The result of the annual examination was a percentage of 85.17, ninety-six compulsory and twenty-six fifth-class certificates being obtained. The attendance had continued to increase, and now stood at 882, higher by thirty than was the average last year. But he was sorry to learn that the increased attendance had involved crowded rooms, with often a difficulty in comfortably seating the larger classes. The result of the exhibition examination was somewhat disappointing, as only one girl was successful. As if in some measure to compensate for this, the Yoothamurra scholarship and one of the scholarships offered by Miss Newman, of Parkside, were won by girls from this school. It was a noteworthy fact that the sixth class had maintained the fine average attendance of forty-five. The teaching staff had been strengthened since the last visit of the Board by the appointment of Mr. W. J. Adey. The two senior pupil teachers would go into the Training College after the holidays, and he was not surprised to learn from the Head Master that they would be much missed. It was gratifying to be told that through the energy of Miss Sheppard a piano had been obtained for the infant school, and was almost though not quite paid for.

The MINISTER of EDUCATION, the TREASURER, and Mr. BATCHELOR spoke kindly to the children, and congratulated them and the teachers on the excellent results obtained. Mr. Bonython presented a prize to the boy and girl who had the best record for atten-

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THE UNIVERSITY NOT FOR THE RICH ALONE.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir—Among the young gentlemen who received degrees at the University on Wednesday were some who had received both their collegiate and University training by means of scholarships provided by the Government, and who would not otherwise have enjoyed these advantages. The fact that they so employed the Public School Exhibitions as to secure the University scholarships, and then creditably took their degrees, should be a satisfaction to the public which provided the funds, and should in some degree be a reply to the sneer that the University exists only for the benefit of the children of the wealthy.

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dance during the year. The award for the boy fell to Evan Morecott Holder, son of the Treasurer, who mentioned that he had two boys and a girl at that school. The Minister granted a half-holiday, and cheers having been given all round a move was made to the Grote-street School.

Mr. R. Hand, in the absence, on account of illness, of Mr. McBride, the Head Master, received the party here, and the sword class were also drawn up. Having gone through the classrooms the visitors had an opportunity of listening to the singing of the higher classes, which gave much pleasure. Dr. Cockburn declared that he had often paid 5s. for a front seat at a concert, which he had not enjoyed as much as the singing that day. Mr. BATCHELOR was pleased with the expression and modulation, and said that there were Choral Societies in Adelaide who were not as proficient in that respect as the Grote-street scholars. The drill of the sword class was very creditable, and Dr. Cockburn mentioned that he once had control of a company who could not do it better.

Mr. BONYTHON, in addressing the children, regretted the absence of Mr. McBride. Of course the work in these large schools did not depend on one man, but Mr. McBride was an exceptional teacher. It was very gratifying to be told that the past year had been a satisfactory one in every respect. The average attendance had been better, and the scholars seemed to have taken a larger interest in their work with a greater desire to excel. At the annual examination the percentage gained was 85.26, which result spoke for itself. The school took a large share in the concerts of the Decoration Society. The school choir was specially commended for the very excellent rendering of two part-songs. A sword class also performed with much success. It was pleasing to parents, and specially gratifying to teachers, to know that the school was now in a more efficient condition than formerly, and that a good healthy tone prevailed which could not fail to have highly beneficial results. Grote-street could be proud of the fact that a considerable number of graduates of the Adelaide University were formerly scholars at that school. Dr. Rogers, who on the previous day received his M.A. degree, was once a pupil at Grote-street, and he could give many other instances. It was also the pioneer of the city schools.

The MINISTER of EDUCATION, the TREASURER, Mr. BATCHELOR, and Mr. O'MALLEY also spoke. They expressed the hope that Mr. McBride would soon be restored to health, and gave the season's greetings. A vote of thanks was accorded them on the motion of Mr. BRANN, seconded by Mr. CARPENTER, and supported by Mr. BASTARD, who twenty-two years ago attended the school as a pupil. Mr. Bonython presented attendance prizes to Gertrude Hartley and John Stafford Northcote for last year, and to Ruby Schell, Hubert McBride,

William Duggan, and Roy Johnstone for this year. The usual half-holiday was granted.