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CLASSICAL STUDIES.

ADELAIDE ASSOCIATION FORMED.

The Classical Association of South Australia has been formed this year under the presidency of Professor Darnley Naylor, who since his connection with the Adelaide University has done much to advance classical and kindred studies in this State. It is urged by the promoters that in an age when the spirit of the times leans so much to commercialism and scientific pursuits there is a danger that the classical studies and letters, humaniores generally may be more or less neglected, and consequently that the nation may lose that culture and intellectual refinement which is acquired only by the study of such subjects. The association will include all graduates of any recognised university, and any others who are interested in classical studies, except students of the Adelaide University who have not graduated and are attending classical lectures. Its objects may be briefly stated as follows:—

- (a) To impress on public opinion the claim of classical studies to an eminent position in the national scheme of education.
- (b) To improve the practice of classical teaching by free discussion of its scope and methods.
- (c) To encourage investigation, and to call attention to new discoveries.
- (d) To create opportunities for friendly intercourse and co-operation among all lovers of classical learning in the country.

A similar association has been formed in England, and has already done serviceable work in the way of uniform pronunciation of Greek and Latin, the publication of up-to-date text-books, and uniformity of teaching. There is no doubt that such an association was wanted in South Australia, as classical studies are being carried out by different methods in various schools and colleges, with the result that their students going to the University acquire a pronunciation different from what they were accustomed to use.

The first general meeting of the association was held at the University on April 10, Professor Naylor presiding. There were present classical masters from various secondary schools of Adelaide and its suburbs. The rules of the association, which had been drawn up at a preliminary meeting, were agreed to; the executive was elected, and afterwards regular business was proceeded with.

One of the first topics of discussion was the pronunciation of Latin and Greek. It was agreed to adopt the pronunciations as recommended by the Classical Association of England, based on the probable pronunciation in the Augustan age. This differs considerably from the Italian style, used chiefly in Roman Catholic colleges and seminaries. The style of pronunciation of Greek was also agreed upon, and then ensued a discussion on various text-books prescribed for the University examinations. On the whole, good business was done, and the enthusiasm of those present augurs well for the success of the association. In past years there seemed to exist a spirit of hostility between teachers and University professors, but the feeling of distrust has been dissipated as far as classics are concerned by Professor Naylor, who is always anxious to meet teachers, learn their opinion, and show them what he expects of candidates.

This association is intended not only for teachers, but also for all those who still retain an interest in classics, whether clergymen, lawyers, doctors, or business men; in fine, for all those who believe that such studies have an ennobling and humanising effect upon the national life. The executive consists of the following:—Patron, the Chief Justice; president, Professor Naylor; vice-presidents, Professors Mitchell and Henderson; committee, Misses Jacob and Cowperthwaite and Mr. J. E. Langley; treasurer, Mr. D. H. Hollidge; secretary, Mr. G. A. McMillan.

MUSIC AND EXAMINATIONS.

During the last year of the partnership between the University and the Associated Board of the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music the University had 896 candidates for examination in music, and last year, which was the first year of the partnership between the universities of Adelaide and Melbourne, the former had 307 candidates. The arrangement between the two institutions is working satisfactorily, and there is every probability of the Sydney University joining with Adelaide and Melbourne in the scheme. There is no chair of music in Sydney yet, but a movement to establish one is engaging the attention of the authorities there, and it is likely to be successful before the end of the year. The sole reason for the agreement is to retain fees in Australia which formerly went to English institutions that still send out examiners. The Australian university schools of music impose tests which are quite equal to the standards fixed by the English colleges, and the desire is to induce music students to embrace the opportunities for learning afforded at the universities. There are 270 students in the Conservatorium at Adelaide. Last year the total for the twelve months was 336.

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UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S MISSION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Adelaide branch of the Missionary Settlement for University Women was held at the Adelaide University on Wednesday afternoon. Miss Hooper presided, and there was a large attendance of students and other ladies interested in the work. Among the latter were Lady Way, Mrs. Darnley Naylor, Mrs. C. H. Goode, and Miss Ruth Rouse, travelling secretary of the World's Student Christian Federation. The objects of the organisation are to teach the higher class Parsee women and girls of India who are not yet students; to meet the growing demand for women's education in India by providing Christian, and not merely secular, teaching; to reach the women students of India; to foster more missionary interest among the women students of Great Britain; and to band them together in a united effort to provide a definite outlet for their interest. There are now five lady missionaries, of whom Miss Rouse is one, and each of them has graduated at some university.

The annual report for 1907 stated that there had been steady progress made during the year. Sorrow was expressed at the death of Dr. Eulalie Dawson, one of the earliest secretaries of the organisation, and the report also referred in terms of regret to the resignation of Miss Padman, B.A., and Miss Patchell, B.A., B.Sc., who had left for other countries. Ten undergraduates had been enrolled during the year, and the membership now stood as follows:—Graduates, 21; undergraduates, 25; school members, 32; needlework guild, 21; subscribers, 12. The subscriptions had totalled £13 12/6.

The report was adopted. Miss Rouse delivered an interesting address upon the work of the association in India, and afternoon tea was served.

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN UNION.

ADDRESS BY MISS RUTH ROUSE.

Miss Ruth Rouse (travelling secretary of the World's Students' Christian Union) delivered an address on Wednesday before the members of the University Christian Union. There were 60 students present. Professor Naylor presided and briefly introduced the visitor. Prayer was offered by Mr. D. M. Lvall. Miss Rouse's subject was "The Christian Union in other lands," and she spoke with great eloquence. She said the same question was asked by students in all countries, "Where can I find a sure standard of conduct?" This was especially the case in Japan. Since the war Japanese girls had been brought into active life, and they were coming from all the small towns to the cities in order to gain the advantages of a liberal education. There were now in Japan technical schools for women, and in Tokyo alone there were 10,000 women students. She believed that there was a great future in regard to the education of women in Japan. Another question asked in all lands was, "How are we to do what you say?" In India the men were mostly great students and non-Christians. Most of the girls were Christians, because the Christians believed that women needed education. A third question was "How can I make the best use of my life?" Student life tended to be exclusive and selfish. Christianity taught that every man's life should be on the same plan as Christ's. In Russia the girls were interested in revolutions, secret societies, clubs, politics, and social life, while church was no attraction to them. They, however, felt the need of the Christian message. It was because of these questions that the Christian Union movement was succeeding. They must remember to keep the standard high and intercessory prayer was a great power.

On Wednesday evening Miss Rouse met a number of the women students at the University, and had an interesting chat with them.

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THE STUDY OF COMMERCE.

The authorities of the University of Adelaide are doing their utmost to promote commercial education, and for the purpose of advancing the study of commerce at the University the late Mr. Joseph Fisher generously gave £1,000, and the Chamber of Commerce made a grant of £25 per annum for three years. It is provided that every alternate year a lecture on a commercial subject, to be called the "Joseph Fisher Lecture," shall be delivered at the University, and subsequently published. The next lecture will be given at the Victoria Hall on Thursday, April 23, by Mr. J. Currie-Elles, of Sydney. The title of the lecture is "The Influence of Commerce on Civilization," and in the belief that the lecture will provide a further stimulus of public interest in the question of advanced commercial education, the board of commercial studies is anxious to secure as large an attendance as possible.