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an honour to themselves. Mr. R. K. Thomas, the worthy President of the Chamber, had given them the greatest consideration. The difficulty in establishing the Faculty of Commerce was that they were unable to grant degrees without an Act of Parliament, and then for them to be of any value in Europe the King's Letters Patent were necessary. The Institute of Accountants, by cultivating the faculties, had given a great deal of assistance to justice in detecting fraud until its members were, if he might be excused the confusion of sex, "the handmaids of justice."

Mr. W. L. Ware submitted "The commercial interests of the State." He quoted figures showing the advance of commercialism in the State. Approximately the imports for 1906 were £9,700,000 and the exports £11,500,000, making a total of £21,000,000 as against about £18,000,000 of 1905. The accountants were the men who had to handle those figures and the business of the State in such a manner that there would be no hitch. The Chamber of Commerce had, by exhibiting such live interest in the commercial welfare of the State, been greatly to the fore in advancing all matters of importance in this respect.

Mr. R. K. Thomas (President of the Chamber of Commerce) responded. He was pleased to be with them, because they were represented in the Chamber of Commerce, whose interests were closely connected with the advancement of commercial education. He thanked Dr. Barlow for his references to work done by the chamber. Mr. Ware had collected interesting figures. With a population of four millions the people of Australia had a trade approaching £114,000,000 in imports and exports, and it was a great tribute to young South Australia that £21,000,000 of that amount could be claimed by this State, or, allowing £4,000,000 for Broken Hill, £17,000,000, which would leave a good average when the population was taken into consideration. He believed that the Premier was doing his best for the advancement of the State. If he was successful in improving the navigation of the Murray he would be worthy of congratulation, as many thousands of people might be profitably employed on the banks of that great stream. Then there was the great question of opening up the Northern Territory and the northern railway. He thought they might all look forward to seeing a large population engaged in mining in the MacDonnell Ranges—(Hear, hear)—and developing the pastoral areas between here and the Northern Territory.

Mr. Edward Kay proposed "The Institute of Accountants of South Australia." He outlined the life of the institute from its commencement in 1885, and gave interesting particulars.

Mr. C. A. Reinecke responded. The society had been started by 19 gentlemen; but had not established the examination qualification for members until the nineties. Now there was a junior class of 102 and a senior class of 35. Since the foundation of the institute £1,903 had been spent in forwarding its objects, besides £219 spent in books.

Mr. A. S. Neill proposed "The Registrar," and Mr. J. E. Thomas responded.

Other toasts were "The invited guests," Mr. H. H. Austin; and "The President," Mr. T. C. Walker, which were responded to by the Premier and Mr. C. A. Reinecke respectively. Mr. Walker pointed out that the society was not "close" but "strict," and the Premier explained that he had meant "particular."

Songs were given by Messrs. F. P. Lawrence and Gomer Thomas, and recitations by Messrs. W. R. Hambidge and Bath.

Miss Elsie Jefferis, who is to join the staff of the Conservatorium as a teacher of the pianoforte during the absence of Mr. Bryceson Treharne, will take up her duties at the Conservatorium next week. Miss Jefferis spent four years on the Continent and in England, where she passed the examinations necessary for her diploma. During that period she had the advantage of studying the pianoforte under Mr. Fritz Hartvigson and his brother, Mr. Anton Hartvigson, both of whom have attained to great celebrity as pianists; also under Herr Bachmann, in Dresden.

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Miss Elsie Jefferis, A.R.C.M., returned from her summer vacation on Friday. Miss Jefferis is to act as locum tenens at the Conservatorium in the absence of Mr. Bryceson Treharne, A.R.C.M. Miss Jefferis gained her musical education during several years of study in the chief musical centres of England and the Continent, and studied under such eminent pianists as Mr. Fritz Hartvigson, his brother (Mr. Anton Hartvigson), Mr. Oscar Beringer, and Herr Bachmann. Among the examiners for her final examination for the diploma of associate were Ernest Pauer and Franklin Taylor.

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#### UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

"Collegiate":—"The age limit for the junior and senior examinations seems a dead letter, and the fact of so many candidates entering for the same examination year after year has gradually forced up the standard immensely. Two classifications would certainly be advisable, (a) one for those who take the whole examination at one time, and have not previously entered for it, and are still under age, and (b) another classification for all the rest. The number in the first list would be found to be exceedingly small, and would probably consist almost entirely of scholarship or bursary holders, at some Government or denominational institution or private school, or commercial training school, or convent, or pacemakers working under private coaches. The rank and file of well-taught girls and boys of average ability would be conspicuous by their absence. Probably only teachers know what an immense number of pupils are prepared for examinations in South Australia free of expense to their parents if they are industrious, well-behaved, and clever. Very few parents are willing to give their children a collegiate education through a long series of years,

starting them young enough to cope with the junior and senior work while under age. Neither do medical men seem to consider children should study much in South Australia; they are kept away from school for months together, and then, instead of taking their work quietly and gradually, they do it by fits and starts, and either grow up ignorant or overwork to make up lost time. Late education that fills the over-age lists is much better than none. I would heartily endorse the wish expressed in your paper for two classifications, and would allow honours in both."

Advice has been received from England by the registrar of the University of Adelaide that Professor W. H. Bragg, who holds the chair of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in this University, is a selected candidate for Fellowship of the Royal Society. Is the case of a selected candidate election follows as a matter of course. Fellowship of the Royal Society is a rare dignity (confined to only 15 persons each year), and has probably been conferred on the professor in recognition of his remarkably successful research work in connection with radio-activity, which has attracted world-wide attention. He is in fact one of the leading investigators of the day in this department. "Johns' Notable Australians" says of Professor Bragg:—He is a native of Wigton, Cumberland, where he was born on July 2, 1862. He was educated at Market Harborough Grammar School (where he obtained a scholarship), King William's College, Isle of Man (scholarship), and Trinity College, Cambridge (foundation scholar), taking his B.A. degree in 1884 (third wrangler) and first class in part II. of the mathematical tripos of 1885, with M.A. in 1887. He has been Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy in the University of Adelaide since 1886, a member of the Adelaide University Council since 1898, and of the Council of the School of Mines and Industries since 1890. Professor Bragg was a governor of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery (representing the Society of Arts) from 1895 to 1901, and President of section A of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science at Hobart in 1892 and Dunedin in 1904. He is the author of various addresses and papers, principally on scientific subjects, including "The elastic medium method of treating electrostatic theorems" (published in The Philosophical Magazine), "The absorption of alpha rays of radium and their classification," and "The ionization curves of radium" (ibid, 1904)." Mrs. Bragg is a daughter of Sir Charles Todd, K.C.M.G., who is a Fellow of the Royal Society. It is interesting to note that the Fellows of the Royal Society resident in Australasia are Sir James Hector (N.Z.), Sir Charles Todd, Professor Bragg's father-in-law (S.A.), Professor Stirling (S.A.), Professors David, Liversidge, and Haswell (N.S.W.), and Professors Baldwin Spencer and Orme Masson, and Messrs. R. L. J. Ellery and J. H. Michell (Vic.).

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#### ELDER CONSERVATORIUM SCHOLARSHIPS.

Thursday was the last day for receiving entries for the three musical scholarships—pianoforte, violin, and 'cello—which are being offered by the Elder Conservatorium. Only 15 entries had been received—eight for the pianoforte and seven for the violin. There were no candidates for the 'cello scholarship, which would seem to indicate that the bass representative of the string quartet is not yet so popular in Adelaide as it should be.