

Advertiser 19/10/21

The Rev. G. H. Wright was elected chairman of the Congregational Union for 1922-1923, at the annual meeting of the Union on Tuesday. Before coming to Adelaide in June, 1919, Mr. Wright served in the Congregational ministry in Western Australia. He held pastorates at North Fremantle and Perth. He was for some years minister of the Sanford-street Congregational Church at Swindon, England. He was born in Victoria in the early



The Rev. G. H. Wright.

eighties, and spent some years in the Western District of Victoria. He then moved to Western Australia, where he was engaged in railway work until 1906. In that year he went to England and took the theological course at Hackney College, London University. After graduating B.A. at the Adelaide University he received the M.A. degree from the Western Australian University in 1915.

Advertiser 20/10/21

### SCIENCE TEACHING.

#### THE QUESTION DISCUSSED.

At a meeting of the Graduates' Association of the University, held on Tuesday evening the following question was discussed:—

The teaching of science in schools—is it satisfactory, or does it stand in need of reform? Speakers supported the following proposals:—(1) That the science studied in the earlier stages of school life should be general in character, and that students should not enter upon a course of specialised science before they reach the age of fourteen; (2) that this instruction in general science may properly begin at the earliest age at which a child enters school; (3) that in drawing up a school curriculum more time should be allotted to science teaching than is done at present; (4) that the historical development of science, illustrated by laboratory experiments, furnishes, for students between the ages of fourteen and sixteen, the best basis for a continuation of this course in general science; and (5) that, in the two years preceding the examination for the leaving certificate, the study of one or more special sciences should accompany the course in the historical development of science.

Professor T. Brailsford Robertson deprecated the custom of deferring instruction in science to a later date, when boys were introduced to a somewhat repellent course of physics or chemistry, and girls to a not more attractive course in physiology or botany. In California physics had been made compulsory, with the result that many students hated the subject ever afterwards, and considered the dose of physics given to them in their school days was enough to last them for life. It was important that children should acquire the scientific point of view and be led to see the part science had played in the development of Western civilisation. He thought the best avenue of approach was with plant physiology. Within two years they would have a considerable knowledge of botany, physiology, chemistry, and geography. Then there should follow a course in the history of science.

Professor Kerr Grant said although he had been teaching for many years, like Sir Oliver Lodge, he did not feel quite happy about it. The interest taken in science by a young boy or girl was amazing. Why was it that by the time a student reached the University this interest too often had evaporated? He thought it was because the methods at the early stages were too formal, technical, and abstract. Individual teaching should take the place of mob drilling, and the evil effects of examinations should be eliminated.

Mr. A. G. Edquist spoke of the experience of the Education Department in

nature study. He gave striking illustrations of the effect of the methods adopted, which showed conclusively that the natural curiosity of the growing child could be fostered by practical experiments.

Professor Osborn stated that it was fundamentally wrong to imagine that life consisted in gaining a great number of certificates bordered with the greatest number of subjects passed in public examinations. Our attitude should be wholly changed, and, therefore, the syllabus of examinations should be changed if science was to be an integral part of school training.

Mr. W. R. Bayl pointed out practical difficulties in giving effect to the suggestions made. The standard demanded of a candidate who wished to begin a course at the University was so high that teachers were compelled to begin the formal science early. The excellence of the results gained in German schools before the war was not so much due to the superior methods of the teachers as to the drive of life. The system was almost inhuman and was more parental than scholastic. If such a reform, as was proposed, were to be introduced, it was essential that the high demands made by individual professors should be relaxed.

Mr. C. T. Madigan said the ordinary schoolboy's curiosity was soon satisfied, and could not be relied upon to provide an incentive to scientific enquiry. He advocated giving more attention to physical geography, but not allotting more time in the school curriculum to science. He also favored making it compulsory that every pupil should learn something of a foreign language.

Mr. L. K. Ward supported those who had spoken of the importance of geography, and said 50, 60, or even 70 years might be added to the ages mentioned in the list of suggestions, for men of mature years still needed to cultivate the spirit of scientific enquiry.

The President, replying to criticism, said there should be no division between scientific and humanistic subjects, for if science were properly taught it deserved, equally with any other branch of learning to be called humanistic.

Advertiser 25/10/21

### ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

#### PART-SINGING.

There was plenty of variety and scope in the programme of the concert by the ladies' part-singing class at the Elder Hall on Monday evening. Mr. H. Winsloe Hall conducted. The concert opened with two charming part songs—a "Cradle song" by Walford Davies which was rendered with just the right restraint and tenderness, and "Præce to the Holiest" from the "Dream of Gerontius," by Elgar. In this there was a semi-chorus—Misses Valda Harvey, Doreen Skinner, Phyllis Everett, and Charlotte Davidson. Miss Lily Sara was at the piano, and here and throughout the evening her spirited and sympathetic accompaniments added much to the effect of each number. Mr. Harold Wyld, F.R.C.O., was at the organ, and the value of the organ accompaniment in the concerted pieces was most noticeable. This writing of Elgar was rendered with expression and finish. Mr. Richard Watson (Elder scholar), who possesses a deep and mellow voice sang two selections—"Pleading" by Tschalkowsky, and Schuman's "I will not grieve"—in a way that won hearty applause. In the solo and chorus, "Psalm cxxxvii," by Liszt, Miss Rita Coonan took the solo, in which her clear high notes told effectively. Miss Ermytrude van Senden played the violin obligato. A duet, "Speak to me of my mother" (Carmen), by Bizet, was effectively rendered by Miss Valda Harvey, an Elder scholar, and Mr. Reginald Thurst. Miss Harvey has an unusually clear enunciation, which adds much to the pleasure given by her singing. Mr. Arnold Ashworth's powerful voice told effectively in the solo and chorus "Frithjof's Elegy," by Max Bruch. The solo work was distinctly exacting, but Mr. Ashworth's singing was dramatic and expressive. Under the accomplished conductorship of Mr. Winsloe Hall the chorus parts came in with just the right effect. Miss Ruby Blewett sang Sullivan's "Where the bee sucks" with a fresh brightness and a charming clearness of pronunciation. Miss Phyllis Everett evinced power and dramatic feeling in her interpretation of the aria "Mon coeur s'ouvre a ta voix" from Saint-Saens's "Samson et Delilah." Mr. Reginald Thurst's solo was Cadman's "Ren-carnate." The programme was concluded with a spirited rendering of Dunhill's most descriptive cantata "Joan Gilpin" by the ladies' part-singing class, with piano and organ accompaniment. The singing of the National Anthem closed a most successful concert.

Register 29/10/21

### "EDUCATION AND THE NATION."

The third of the 1921 series of Y.M.C.A. "National Talks" were given in the Victoria Hall on Thursday night by Professor D. H. Houldge, M.A., who spoke on "Education and the Nation." The President of the Y.M.C.A. (Mr. S. Price Weir) occupied the chair. In the course of his remarks the lecturer said there was a growing feeling among educationalists to-day that students should be compelled to remain at school longer than at present. It had been said that the education of a child was the reflection of the tutor, but the children were not more than 25 hours a week, excluding holidays, under the care of the school, and outside influence counted for more, as education was the training for life. It was necessary if a man was to be educated for him to think consecutively and candidly, and to be able to weigh evidence and draw accurate conclusions. One of the dangers of superficial education was that in a democracy the people might become an unreasoning mob. In such a case a democracy might not be as advantageous as the benevolent tyranny of a limited number of men. Our children, and our children's children, as the result of the war, would be born into a more difficult world, and should be armed for the conflict in which they would be engaged. Sometimes the home influence was hostile or indifferent to education, which should be prolonged from the period of adolescence. To-day in South Australia, which had a splendid system of education, even the poorest children could get the whole of that education free. Personality in teachers was even more important than their acquirements.

Register 29/10/21

### LIFE AND WORKS OF DANTE.

#### PROFESSOR PHILLIPSON'S LECTURE.

On September 14, the sixth centenary of the death of Dante, the great Italian poet, was celebrated throughout the world, and the occasion was commemorated in Adelaide by a lecture on the life of the poet delivered by Professor Coleman Phillipson at the request of the Public Library Committee. The address attracted an audience much larger than the Art Gallery bay would accommodate and many who had desired to be present were unable to obtain tickets. In consequence, arrangements were made to have it repeated, and the notification by the S.A. Teachers' Union that the professor would again lecture on "Dante" attracted a large number of people to Price Hall, Grote street, on Friday evening. His Excellency, the Governor presided, and among those also on the platform were Sir Josiah Symon, K.C., Mr. P. McM. Glynn, K.C., and the Crown Solicitor (Dr. F. W. Richards, K.C.).

His Excellency, in introducing the lecturer, said that to few people was there given the possession of versatile knowledge and the capacity of imparting that knowledge to the others. In their friend Professor Phillipson there was a remarkable instance of a man who had the versatility and the ability to convey in an attractive form to others what he knew. The lecturer was going to add to-night to the enormous store of information his audiences on other occasions had garnered.

The Professor, in the time at his disposal, was able to give but a brief record of the life and work of the poet, but he eloquently and faithfully fulfilled his purpose of doing something towards helping to keep immortal the memory of the great man. After tracing briefly the career of the poet, which he described as that of a man outwardly broken under the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, an exile, beholden to strangers for his very bodily existence, the lecturer spoke of the inner life of the poet and the pilgrimage embarked upon by a far-seeing, unconquerable soul, inspired, animated, and uplifted by an unflinching love and devotion, and leading at last to a glorious triumph. That spiritual autobiography could be read, he said, in Dante's works "Vita Nuova," "Convito," and the "Divine Comedy." The lecturer then gave a delightful epitome of the poet's visionary journey through the nether world under the guidance of Virgil, and described the work as an immortal monument, a sacred heritage for mankind, and a perennial fountain of joy and delight. During the lecture the professor read many quotations from the works of the poet, and some of the sonnets from the Vita Nuova were recited by Mrs. Phillipson.

At the conclusion Professor Phillipson was heartily thanked for his lecture and His Excellency the Governor for having presided.

Advertiser 29/10/21

Five members of the council of the University of Adelaide retire in November each year. Next month Professor Mitchell and Mr. T. A. Caterer will retire by effluxion of time. A ballot was taken on Friday at a meeting of the council to decide which three of the following should also retire:—Messrs. W. R. Bayly and J. R. Fowler, Dr. W. T. Hayward, Professor Perkins, and Mr. Talbot Smith. The three first-named were chosen.

Advertiser 29/10/21

Professor Henderson and Mr. W. J. Isbister, K.C., were on Friday reappointed as representatives of the University on the Public Library Board.

Register 1/11/21

### ELDER CONSERVATORIUM.

#### STUDENTS' CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT.

It is claimed for the study of chamber music that it gives a value and outlet for instrumental work—bringing musicians together, and some of the most perfect compositions of the greatest masters, to enrich their musical experience. "A conversation of equal voices" is our way of putting it. In ensemble playing there is scope for balance, and a comprehension of values, and the intuitive understanding of the other players which must be particularly valuable to young musicians. Indeed, these concerts must do much to develop the powers of the students. Working with a definite object makes all the difference. The opportunity for comparison and criticism is of worth, but even greater is the value of expression—learning to play upon that instrument of many strings, the audience. The work of the students taking part in the concert on Monday evening was distinctly pleasing, and it was easy to see how real a centre of music study the Conservatorium has become. In time to come a growing understanding and love of music will spread through the community. This chamber music concert by students of the ensemble classes was under the direction of Mr. Gerald Walenn and Mr. Harold Parsons, Mus. Bac., and the programme was admirably selected. The concert was opened with the first movement of Haydn's Trio in D major for piano, violin, and 'cello, by Miss Jean Renor, Mr. Mervyn Williams, and Miss Alice Cummins. The young pianist had a clear bright touch, and the violinist played with good time. Other concerted numbers were the first movement of Haydn's trio in F sharp minor, by Miss Edna Burke, Miss Alice Price, and Mr. Eric Gibbs; Trio in F (Gade, first movement), by Miss Marjorie Beare, Miss Gwen Moss, and Mr. John Megaw; Trio in D minor (Mendelssohn), by Miss Eileen Grosse, Miss Gwen Moss, and Mr. Eric Gibbs, and quartet in G minor (first movement (Mozart), by Miss Lola Penaluick, Miss Io Fauda, Miss van Senden, and Mr. Eric Gibbs. All were pleasingly rendered, especially the Mendelssohn trio and the quartet. There were also several items for piano and violin. Mozart's sonata in E minor was played by Misses Ethel Dawe and Elma van Senden. Sonata in E minor (Davies) by Misses Ellen Brindal and Lilian Pether. Grieg's sonata in F, by Misses Brisbane Mathews and Helen Magarey, and the introduction and allegro from sonata in G (Beethoven), by Misses Mary Megaw and Alice Cummins. The vocalists were Miss Beryl Counter, who sang "Dedication" (Franz) and "The violet" (Mozart) with charming simplicity and clearness of diction. Miss Mollie Binks-Williams, who rendered Brahms's "Sapphic ode," and Miss Eileen Hancock, who displayed a charmingly clear fresh soprano in "Villanelle" (Del Aqua). The violin obligato was tastefully played by Mr. T. Wyles.

Advertiser } how  
Register & } 4th 1921  
Herald }

### UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE.

Owing to the incidence of the annual examinations, the fifth of the series of public demonstrations in physics at the University will not be given this afternoon.