

Senior Register 1923

Alice Margaret, Eg, L, Ft, Ma, Bt, ... Adelaide High School; Wight, Hugh Humphrey, Eg, L, Ft, Ma, Bt, ... Adelaide High School; ...

Beck, Claude Douglas, Mb, Ma, Pc, D; ... Fairweather, Harold E, Pc; ... Hackett, Nellie Isabel, Eg; ...

Eg, Ma, Pc; Jenkins, Lucy, Mb, Ma; ... Oakley, Hannah Rosalie, Mhx, L, Pc; ...

Pex, C; Scher, Waitemar, Eg, G; ... THE W.E.A. SUMMER SCHOOL. A lecture on "The Psychology of Getting Tired" was delivered by Mr. C. Garnett on Friday evening at the summer school now being conducted by the Workers' Educational Association, at Mount Lofty. The speaker, who quoted from the writings of Arthur Haseguchi, dealt extensively with mental and physical fatigue, describing fatigue as being much more mental than physical. The mind tired before the body, and fatigue was often better counteracted by a change to some congenial occupation than by doing nothing. Lackadaisical people who adopted the latter course and did little at any time, got tired sooner than those who sought relaxation in a more energetic manner. This showed the great necessity for a life of enthusiasm and energy. On Saturday morning Mr. Garnett spoke on "Mental Deficiency," and after describing the construction of the brain in various phases of animal life, pointed out that control of instincts and impulses was governed by the topmost layer of the brain, this being the section wherein the normal differed from the abnormal. The measure of intelligence depended on the number of nerve cells in this layer, and while in some cases these were atrophied, they could be increased by study, as had been proved by mental tests of people who had studied right on into adult life. Adults who could not pass a thirteen-year-old brain test were mentally deficient, but 70 per cent. of these cases were not easy to recognize, appearing to be merely dull and uneducated. With the test should be included weight, height, vitality, the clinical and moral record, and family history. Alcohol had been proved to have a deteriorating effect on the brain, first stimulating, but eventually poisoning, so that power of control of animal impulses was diminished as the cells became atrophied. It had been found that in sixteen American reformatories, 64 per cent. of the inmates were mentally deficient, while of 27 men hanged for murder in Melbourne, 20 were below normal. Fifty per cent. of all criminals were mentally deficient, and the need was for schools and colonies rather than institutions, so that after being properly classified as children, some people might be saved by special treatment, and others segregated if found to be incurable.

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